

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

*of*

INVESTIGATION

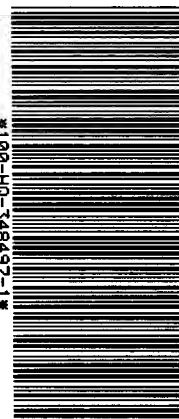
Screened By: NS Date: 06-08-2016 DOCID: 70099505

Declassified Authority: RD 44418 By: NS Date: 06-08-2016

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

NW: 15673 DocId: 70099505 Page 1

Transfer-Call 421



SERIALS 1

100-HQ-348497

SECTION 1

January 29, 1947

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

In connection with the investigation of Soviet espionage in the United States, it has been ascertained that the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission will release offices presently maintained at 1106 Heartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California, jointly with the San Francisco Shipping Supply. The latter company, in addition to utilizing the same office quarters, utilized a telephone listed to the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission.

The head of this concern is Constantine V. Lebedeff, a naturalized citizen of Russian descent who will open an office in 315 Heartwell Building as of February 1, 1947, when the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission closes its office. It is believed that Lebedeff will handle all business for the Purchasing Commission in the future and in order to completely cover his activities, it is deemed necessary to utilize all possible technical assistance.

I recommend that you authorize the installation of a technical surveillance at the office of Lebedeff, 315 Heartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California.

Respectfully,

cc: J. J. Donohue - 1708

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

SENT FROM D. O.

TIME 10-20

DATE 1-30-47

BY [Signature]

RECEIVED DIRECTOR  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
JAN 30 4 48 PM '47

FEB 12 1947

# F.B.I. TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DECODED COPY

WASH FROM LOSA 3 27 4-35 PM  
 DIRECTOR URGENT

CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, IS-R., TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE. SUBJECT, WHO HAS BEEN EMPLOYED BY SGPC FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS IS OPENING OFFICE ROOM 315 HEARTWELL BUILDING LONG BEACH, AS HEAD OF THE SAN FRANCISCO SHIPPING SUPPLY, LONG BEACH, FEBRUARY ONE NEXT WHEN SGPC CLOSES OFFICE. IT IS BELIEVED THAT LEBEDEFF WILL HANDLE SGPC BUSINESS. PERMISSION IS REQUESTED TO INSTALL TECHNICAL AND MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE, ROOM 315 HEARTWELL BUILDING.

RECEIVED 1-27-47 8-37 P.M. EST HOOD MK

*Y. Connor Director  
 Tamm Attorney General  
 1-29-47  
 E32*

SE 35

RECORDED

EX-1

100-348497-1  
 FBI  
 JAN 31 1947

*cc Mr. [unclear]*

*Recd 11:55 pm  
 1/30/47*

*H. J. [unclear]*

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

2-12 H3  
**URGENT  
CODE IN FULL**

JANUARY 31, 1947

SAC - LOS ANGELES

EX-10  
RECORDED  
100-348497-2  
TECHNICAL-MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE, CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF,  
IS-R. AUTHORITY GRANTED INSTALLATION TECHNICAL-MICROPHONE  
SURVEILLANCE OFFICE CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, SAN FRANCISCO  
SHIPPING SUPPLY, THREE FIFTEEN HEARTWELL BUILDING, NINETEEN  
PINE AVENUE, LONG BEACH, PROVIDED FULL SECURITY ASSURED. SUTEL  
TIME, DATE INSTALLATION, SYMBOL NUMBER, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND  
PLANT LOCATION.

JDD:mpd

HOOVER

G.I.R.-5

COMMUNICATIONS  
JAN 31 12 13 PM '47

COMMUNICATIONS  
JAN 31 12 13 PM '47

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

58 FEB 25 1947



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : D. M. Ladd *1/30* *EAT*

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DATE: January 29, 1947

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Beahm	
Miss Gandy	

The Los Angeles Office has advised that the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission is closing its office located in Long Beach, California as of February 1, 1947. The captioned subject is opening an office in room 315 Heartwell Building, Long Beach as head of a San Francisco Shipping Supply also as of February 1, 1947. It is believed that he will handle Soviet Government Purchasing Commission business in the future.

Lebedeff is a naturalized citizen of Russian descent and has been employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission for the past three years. In October 1946, the San Francisco Shipping Supply, of which he is the head, had office space in the quarters of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission and utilized a phone listed to the Purchasing Commission.

The Los Angeles Office has requested authority to install a technical and microphone surveillance covering Lebedeff's new office space. It is recommended that this authority be given.

Action:

There is attached for your approval a memorandum to the Attorney General requesting authority for the technical surveillance installation.

Attachment  
ETT:MR

*1/31/47*  
*gms*

*EX-11* *RECORDED* *100-348497-230*  
*FEB 4 1947*

*5-317*

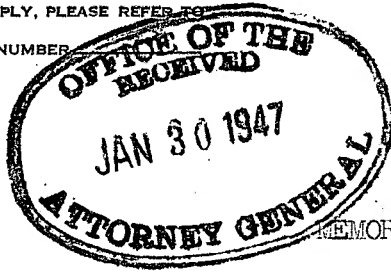


**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**Washington, D. C.**

January 29, 1947

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NUMBER



MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

In connection with the investigation of Soviet espionage in the United States, it has been ascertained that the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission will release offices presently maintained at 1106 Heartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California, jointly with the San Francisco Shipping Supply. The latter company, in addition to utilizing the same office quarters, utilized a telephone listed to the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission.

The head of this concern is Constantine V. Lebedeff, a naturalized citizen of Russian descent who will open an office in 315 Heartwell Building as of February 1, 1947, when the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission closes its office. It is believed that Lebedeff will handle all business for the Purchasing Commission in the future and in order to completely cover his activities, it is deemed necessary to utilize all possible technical assistance.

I recommend that you authorize the installation of a technical surveillance at the office of Lebedeff, 315 Heartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California.

Respectfully,

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
 John Edgar Hoover  
 Director

100-345497-2

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC - 150  
*mg*

February 27, 1947

TO: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

CODED  
*mg 2-12 ok*

SAC, LOS ANGELES

Transmit the following message to:

RECORDED

100-348497-3

EX - CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEF, IS - R: REURTEL FEBRUARY TWENTY-SIX, LAST. BUREAU ADVISED YOU BY TELETYPE DATED JANUARY THIRTY-ONE, LAST CAPTIONED, "TECHNICAL-MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE - CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEF, IS - R" THAT AUTHORITY GRANTED TO INSTALL TECHNICAL-MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCES AT OFFICE OF LEBEDEF, THREE ONE FIVE HEARTWELL BUILDING, LONG BEACH, PROVIDED FULL SECURITY. YOU WERE REQUESTED TO SUTEL TIME, DATE INSTALLATION, SYMBOL NUMBER, TELEPHONE NUMBER AND PLANT LOCATION. REQUEST YOU CHECK FILES AND ADVISE IMMEDIATELY WHETHER TELETYPE DATED JANUARY THIRTY-ONE RECEIVED BY YOU.

HOOVER

G.I.R. 5

ETT:MR

ENC

LL, BG

1658 sent

TELETYPE SECTION

FEB 28 10 00 AM '47

RECEIVED

AUDIO SECTION

FEB 28 10 12 AM '47  
RECEIVED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 28 1947

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NW: H 100-348497-3 Page 7

58 MAR 14 1947

12:18 PM

Per H H

5-87

## F.B.I. TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

WASH FROM LOSA 2 26 9:50 AM  
 DIRECTOR URGENT

CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEV - ISR. TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE. RETEL TO BUREAU JANUARY 27. SUBJECT EMPLOYED SGPC, LONG BEACH, PAST THREE YEARS. OPENED OFFICE ROOM 315 HEARTWELL BUILDING, LONG BEACH, FEBRUARY 1, 1947. NOW HANDLING SGPC BUSINESS UNDER NAME SAN FRANCISCO SHIPPING SUPPLIES, TELEPHONE LONG BEACH 66809. PERMISSION REQUESTED TO INSTALL TECHNICAL AND MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCES.  
 HOOD

RECEIVED 2-26-47 2:57 PM EST MD

*2/27/47  
 checked with Donohue's  
 clerk who checked with IT  
 room & instant IT sent  
 out 1/31/47*

*IT has Aug. 2/27/47  
 E.S. MR*

RECORDED  
 EX-49

*100-34800*  
 15 MAR 1 1947  
*5-AT*

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

## F.B.I. TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DECODED COPY

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

WASH FROM LOSA 3

3-2-47

10-30 AM

DIRECTOR URGENT

CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, IS - R. REURTEL FEBRUARY 28 LAST.  
 THIS OFFICE NO RECORD EVER RECEIVING YOUR TEL DATED JANUARY 31  
 LAST AUTHORIZING TECHNICAL MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE. ATTENTION  
 IS CALLED TO SUTEL FEBRUARY 22 LAST ENTITLED QUOTE CP - USA  
 DISTRICT 13 LOS ANGELES F D UNQUOTE ADVISING THAT AUTHORITY HAD  
 BEEN GIVEN TO TRANSFER [REDACTED] TO NEW LOCATION  
 BY BUTEL JANUARY 31, 47 THIS OFFICE NEVER RECEIVED BUTEL JANUARY  
 31 RE [REDACTED]

HOOD

RECEIVED

3-2-47

1:51 PM EST

MG

INDEXED

RECORDED

100-348497-4

EX-47

MAR 8 1947

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated  
 outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in  
 order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

51 MAR 15 1947

## F.B.I. TELETYPE

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

WASHINGTON FROM LOS ANGELES 1 6 10:50 AM

DIRECTOR URGENT

CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, IS - R. TECHNICAL AND MICROPHONE  
 SURVEILLANCE INSTALLED SUBJECT'S OFFICE, ROOM 315, 19 PINE  
 AVENUE, LONG BEACH. TELEPHONE LONG BEACH 66708 AT 11:30 P.M.,  
 JANUARY 31, 1947. PLANT ROOM 612 SAME BUILDING. SYMBOL  
 TECHNICAL [ ] MICROPHONE [ ] BUTEL JANUARY 31 RECEIVED.  
 TELETYPE INQUIRY TO BUREAU FEBRUARY 26 SHOULD BE DISREGARDED.

HOOD

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

RECEIVED:

3-6-47

2:19 PM EST

MW

G.I.R.-5

RECORDED  
RE

INDEXED

36

MAR 10 1947

EX-72

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated  
 outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in  
 order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

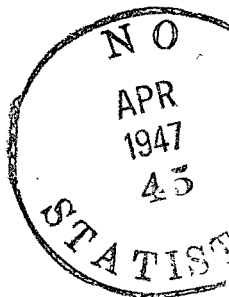
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-23834**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/18/47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/8, 10/47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>RILEY L. MILLARD</b> <div style="text-align: right;"><b>GER</b></div>
TITLE <b>CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF; MRS. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF, a naturalized U.S. citizen of Russian birth, has been employed by the SGPC, Long Beach, Calif. since 1/44 as Purchasing Agent, Interpreter, Translator and general handyman. Prior to 1/44, LEBEDEFF was very active in RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF. He has been a frequent visitor to the Russian Vice Consulate, although he apparently is not regarded too highly by the Russian Consular Officials. He came to the U.S. about 28 years ago and was naturalized as a citizen of the U.S. at San Francisco, Calif. on 9/3/29, Certificate #3129897. He was employed by Hollywood studios prior to 1944 and is reported to be skilled as a set designer. Mrs. LEBEDEFF has been employed by SGPC, Long Beach, Calif. as a typist and receptionist since about 6/46. She is reported to be a very poor typist and does not speak English too well. She was employed by GRACHEV because of her reliability.



AGENCY / cc DNS for Ang  
REQ. REC'D 5 9 55  
FEB'T FORM. 5 27 55  
BY 2 54 1 1/2

*Re: Alexander V. Iskhedy Sporne*

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau letter, 12/19/46, entitled "SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION; INTERNAL SECURITY - R."

**DETAILS:**

The files of the Los Angeles Field Office reflect that on March 3, 1944 a car bearing license #48A823 was observed by agents of this office at the Russian Vice Consulate, Los Angeles, California. Through the Department of Motor Vehicles, Sacramento, California, it was determined that this car belonged to CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, 1411 North Cherokee Avenue, Hollywood, California.

COPIES DESTROYED  
R 152 AUG 16 1962

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS FILE 5 - Bureau 2 - San Francisco 1 - Washington Field (Info.) 2 - Los Angeles		<b>100-348497-6</b> <b>SE 26</b> <b>RECORDED</b> <b>INDEXED 105</b> <b>EX-20</b>
		<b>1 MAR 25 1947</b> <b>SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD. DISSEMINATION</b>



LA 100-23834

An examination of the records of the office of the Registrar of Voters, 808 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, revealed that on September 19, 1940 LEBEDEF, who then resided at 4674<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> La Mirada Avenue, Los Angeles, registered as a voter and stated that he was born in Russia, was affiliated with the Democratic Party and had been naturalized as a citizen of the United States by Decree of Court, September 3, 1929 at San Francisco, California, Certificate #3129897.

Source 18-T advised in 1944 that LEBEDEF has been Purchasing Agent in the Los Angeles Area for the Purchasing Commission of the Soviet Union with headquarters at 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California. Informant stated that LEBEDEF's duties consist of obtaining supplies for Russian ships, furnishing transportation to the ship captains and crew members. LEBEDEF was a frequent visitor to Soviet ships in 1943, representing RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF, and regularly employed in the motion picture industry in Hollywood. According to the informant, LEBEDEF was born in Russia, migrated to the United States approximately 28 years ago and is contributing his time and efforts to Russian War Relief because he thinks they need his help.

On June 15, 1944, Bureau Agents observed LEBEDEF attending a party at the Russian Vice Consulate, Los Angeles.

On July 20, 1944, LEBEDEF was observed by Bureau Agents entering the Russian Vice Consulate. FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

advised that subject went to work for the SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION in Long Beach, California in January, 1944 as an aide at \$250 per month. He acts as Purchasing Agent, translator, interpreter and contact man.

A confidential source revealed that on May 9, 1944 A. P. GRACHEV wrote the following letter to Rear Admiral RAMISHVILLI:

"To the Representative of the Government Purchasing Commission of the Soviet Union in the U.S.A. of the Western Shores  
Member of the Commission  
Rear Admiral Com. RAMISHVILLI, S. S.

"In our office in Long Beach we have a man LEBEDEF, KONSTANTIN VLADIMIROVICH working as a supply agent since January of 1944. He is an American citizen of Russian parentage.

"Ever since the beginning of his employment here he has worked unceasingly discounting the time of day, night and holidays. He does this because he himself sees the necessity of completing the work even though he is told to stop and go home.

"Not once has K. V. LEBEDEFF asked any favor of us either in the form of compensation or compensatory leave for overtime.

"All summer of last year and now, for the past two months, he has worked until 10, 11 P.M. This has been necessary because of the short stay of the tankers in port and the subsequent need of quick action in supplying same. If it was not for the hard work of this comrade the ships would never be supplied.

"LEBEDEFF transports in his own machine seamen to the hospital, delivers on board many supplies, which saves us much money and time.

"In March of 1944 he bought a 1935 Ford which showed a mileage of 48,000. At present it already shows a mileage of 104,000 this obviously shows the amount of work he does. He paid \$675.00 for the machine which is now worth only \$200.00.

"He is very conscientious, shows initiative and tries to supply the ship 100 per cent. All the ships' captains are well satisfied with his work.

"Last year he prevented a possible catastrophe on the Tanker 'Batumi' of his own initiative. He has been promised a bonus for his actions described in our report to Comrade RAZIN. We have had no evidence of this bonus as yet.

"At this time K. V. LEBEDEFF is receiving a salary of \$250.00 per month. He is badly in need and therefore we are of the opinion that he should be helped, especially in view of his meritorious work.

"We again ask you forward a bonus of \$300.00 to K. V. LEBEDEFF. If we had paid his overtime for the past year it would be no less than \$800.00 or \$900.00.

With regards to you.

/s/ By Director of the Tanker Fleet Group  
A.P. GRACHEV

And the Representative of the SGPC  
in Los Angeles P.N. ZDORNYKH

Subject's employment with the SGPC was terminated October 15, 1945. In November, 1945 he was living at 1047 North Oxford Street, Los Angeles at the home of EUGENIA ZONN. He was reported to be working for COLUMBIA STUDIOS. LEBEDEFF was reemployed at the SGPC, Long Beach, California in April, 1946 and resided at 425 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach. He is presently residing at this address.

LA 100-23834

~~\*CONF. INFT.~~

Through [redacted] it was learned that LEBEDEFF is presently very active on behalf of the SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION in purchasing supplies for Russian ships, arranging for dock space, obtaining fuel and performing other services for the Russian ships.

~~\*CONF. INFT.~~

[redacted] advised that GRACHEV has remarked that LEBEDEFF is beginning to feel that he is very important. GRACHEV and TUMANTZEV regard this as a joke.

It will be noted that LEBEDEFF has not been invited to recent parties at the Russian Vice Consulate and that ~~TUMANTZEV~~ has stated that he does not consider inviting LEBEDEFF necessary.

Source T-1 reported that during the recent Longshoremen's Strike the Russians were anxious to have several carloads of coal loaded on several small ships which had been confiscated from Germany. LEBEDEFF made an appeal to L. B. THOMAS, President of the Longshoremen's Union, in person, and THOMAS agreed to make an exception and permit the coal to be loaded. The coal was never loaded because the Employers Association refused to order the men to work.

~~\*CONF. INFT.~~

[redacted] stated that it is his understanding that LEBEDEFF has been employed at Hollywood Studios as a set designer for years and that he is an expert in this profession. Informant stated that he is at a loss to understand why LEBEDEFF would work for the SGPC at the reported salary of \$250 per month since he obviously could make considerably more in the studios.

Mrs. CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF was employed by the SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION about June 1, 1946 as typist, receptionist, etc.

[redacted] advised that Mrs. LEBEDEFF does not speak English too well and has considerable trouble understanding English over the telephone.

[redacted] advised that Mrs. LEBEDEFF is a very poor typist and apparently was hired only because of her reliability. He stated that she is a dancer by profession and has worked for various Hollywood studios.

Additional information concerning LEBEDEFF's activities may be found in the Los Angeles file entitled "SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION; INTERNAL SECURITY - R."

- P E N D I N G -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION

At San Francisco, California:

Will check the records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and obtain all available information concerning CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, who is reported to have been naturalized in San Francisco on September 3, 1929, Certificate #3129897.

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California:

Will, at Columbia Studios, examine the personnel record of LEBEDEFF and obtain all background information available.

Will also determine if Mrs. LEBEDEFF was employed by this studio and obtain all information available concerning her.

If no records concerning these individuals are found at this studio, will check the other studios for personnel records on these individuals.

At Long Beach, California

Will continue to maintain contact with informants and report activities of subjects.

One copy of this report is being forwarded to the Washington Field Division for their information in view of their interest in the case entitled "SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION; INTERNAL SECURITY - R."

LA 100-23834

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Source T-1: DAVE GERSHON  
Reporter for the "Examiner"  
Long Beach and San Pedro, California

Source 18-T: JESS A. VALLOW  
Chief Clerk  
Ration Board 19  
6530 Sunset Boulevard  
Hollywood, California

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

DATE: March 18, 1947

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Subject is a naturalized American citizen of Russian birth who has been employed by the SOVIET GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION, 1106 Heartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California, since January, 1944. He has been very active in RUSSIAN WAR RELIEF and other Russian matters for the past several years and is a frequent visitor at the Russian Consulate.

This individual is being placed on the Key Figure List.

RLM:GER  
100-23834

cc: Los Angeles File 100-17094

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INDEXED

105

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100-348497-7

## F.B.I. TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

B  
DECODED COPY

WASH FROM LOSA 5 16 3:40 PM  
 DIRECTOR URGENT

CONSTANTIN LEBEDEFF, INTERNAL SECURITY - R. TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE  
 DISCONTINUED ON SUBJECT AT ROOM 315, 19 PINE AVENUE LONG BEACH,  
 TELEPHONE LONG BEACH 66708. CONTINUOUS MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE AND  
 PLANT DISCONTINUED. ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR MICROPHONE SPOT SUR-  
 VEILLANCE OF SUBJECT AT ABOVE ADDRESS AT NO COST. SECURITY ASSURED.  
 HOOD

RECEIVED 4-16-47 7:29 PM EST MD

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100-348497-8  
 F B I  
 15 APR 23 1947

EX-62

210  
 If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated  
 outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in  
 order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

50 APR 28 1947



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-26961

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>5/13/47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/25, 28, 29-5/13/47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WILBERT J. WEISKIRCH</b> <span style="float: right;">ec</span>
TITLE <b>CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF; Mrs. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF was born on December 31, 1904 in Poltow, Russia. He immigrated from Manila, Philippine Islands and arrived in the United States at San Francisco aboard the U.S. Army Transport "MERRITT" as a passenger on July 1, 1923. LEBEDEFF was naturalized as citizen of the United States in U.S. District Court at San Francisco on September 3, 1929, Certificate Number 3129897. Additional biographical data set forth.

*CH*  
*1-12*

AGENCY *ICC DNS Los Angeles*  
REC'D *5-9-55*  
EXP'T FORM *5-17-55*  
BY *2401*

- RUC -

*G.I.R. 9*

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent RILEY L. MILLARD dated March 18, 1947 at Los Angeles.

**DETAILS:**

On the petition for naturalization filed by CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF on March 21, 1929 with the Immigration Naturalization Service in San Francisco, the following biographical data and information is set forth:-

**COPIES DESTROYED**

Date and Place of Birth:

December 31, 1904  
Poltow, Russia

**R 182 AUG 16 1962**

Mother's Name:

EUGENIA GODZEVICH

Residence:

541 Divisadero Street,  
San Francisco

*la*

APPROVED AND  
FORWARDED:

*Harvey Kimball*

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- 2 - San Francisco

**DEC 53 MAY 26 1947**  
REC'D  
CC 10

**RECORDED**

**INDEXED**

**EX-70**

**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. DISSEMINATION.**

Former Residence:

2206 Geary Street,  
San Francisco  
Scotia, California  
August 1923 to December, 1923  
San Francisco from  
December 1923 to January 1928  
Hollywood, California from  
January 1928 to July, 1928  
and San Francisco July 1928  
to March, 1929.

Employment:

Pacific Lumber Company  
1923, Sacramento, California  
Huntington Apts.  
1924, San Francisco  
Matson Navigation Company  
1927, San Francisco

References:

Emporium, 1929, San Francisco  
~~BORIS VON SONN~~  
1862 Geary Street, San Francisco  
~~SERGEI A. KOMOV~~,  
Automobile Driver  
2047 Green Street,  
San Francisco

The records of Immigration Naturalization Service further reflect that LEBEDEFF boarded the SS "MERRITT" a U.S. Army Transport as a passenger at Manila, Philippine Islands on May 24, 1923 and landed at San Francisco, California on July 1, 1923. He traveled with a Mr. ZOM, Mr. BENDER, Lt. NECHOROSHEFF, Mr. VANTZ, Mr. KOLOSSOFF and Mr. KEISKANEN. He filed his first papers, that is, his declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United at the Post Office at San Francisco on December, 26, 1923.

The records of the Clerk of the U.S. District Court, Post Office Building, San Francisco, California made available by MARIE LEEDS, reflect that on order of the U.S. District Court on September 3, 1929 the subject became a naturalized citizen of the United States under Certificate Number 3129897. At the time of the filing of his petition with the United States District Court in San Francisco on April 24, 1929, subject gave as his address 1796 Eddy Street, San Francisco and furnished former addresses as 541 Divisadero Street and 1302 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco. BORIS VON SONN and SERGEI A. KOMOV witnessed the naturalization proceedings and both indicated they had known the subject since April 1, 1924.

SF 100-26961

The indices of the San Francisco office contained no pertinent information on BORIS VON SOMN. Regarding ~~SERGEI ALEXANDER KOMOV~~, 1563-8th Avenue, San Francisco, California, ~~CONF. IN~~ [ ] reported in June of 1942 that KOMOV was employed as the Assistant Pier Supervisor, U.S. Army Transport Docks, Oakland, California and was a member of the KAUT KOMPANIA, a Russian Naval Officer's Club in San Francisco. KOMOV was reported to be an associate of ~~BARON ALEXANDER BUDBERG~~, ~~VICTOR BRENDL~~ and ~~ROLF VON NEYKING~~, all of whom were considered by [ ] to be suspected white Russians. [ ] further reported that KOMOV was alleged to be a Cadet in the Imperial Russian Navy prior to the Red Revolution, to have escaped from a Concentration Camp and to have come to San Francisco in 1923. KOMOV was born August 30, 1904 at Birek, Russia and became a naturalized United States citizen in 1928.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. 100-23834

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/30/47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>Feb. 1 thru April 14, 1947</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>RILEY L. MILLARD</b>
TITLE CHANGED: <b>CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF</b> <b>WA, Costia Valdemar Lebedeff;</b> <b>Mrs. CONSTANTINE V LEBEDEFF, nee</b> <b>Alexandra Shermett</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

On 2/1/47 the SGPC Office, Long Beach, Calif. was closed and all Russian personnel departed for Russia. CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF moved his office to Room 315, Hartwell Building, where he continues to perform the same functions as performed when employed by the SGPC. His present employer is the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company of San Francisco, Calif., owned by MORRIS BACH, an American citizen of Russian ancestry. LEBEDEFF works very closely with A. P. GRACHEV of San Francisco, the only remaining representative on the Pacific coast of the SGPC. LEBEDEFF is in frequent contact with the Soviet Vice Consulate in Los Angeles. Additional background information on both subjects set out. Present address is 220-A Ximeno Ave., Long Beach, Calif.

- P -

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

**REFERENCE:** Report of Special Agent RILEY L. MILLARD, Los Angeles, dated 2/18/47, Los Angeles, March 18, 1947

**DETAILS:**

The title of this report is being marked changed to include the alias **COSTIA VALDEMAR LEBEDEFF** and nee **ALEXANDRA SHERMETT**.

advised that the SGPC Office, Hartwell Building, Long Beach, California, closed the last of January, 1947. All Russian personnel returned to Russia.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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- 2 - Los Angeles

RECEIVED 16 SEP 1947

100-348497-10

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L.A. 100-23834

CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFER moved his office to Room 315 of the same building and opened an office as representative of the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company on February 1, 1947. This company is owned by MORRIS BACH, a naturalized citizen of Russian birth who was formerly employed by the McCormick Steamship Company. Apparently BACH has a contract or agreement with the Russian Government to handle routine matters pertaining to Russian ships arriving on the Pacific coast, inasmuch as LEBEDEFER continues to perform the same functions as rendered when employed by the SGPC. He spends long hours arranging for supplies, berths, repairs, etc., for the ships and is in frequent contact with A. P. GRACHEV in San Francisco, as well as the Soviet Vice Consulate in Los Angeles. GRACHEV has made a number of visits to Long Beach since his transfer to San Francisco and always uses LEBEDEFER's office when in this area.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ [redacted] advised that LEBEDEFER is working twelve to sixteen hours a day in connection with the handling of the Russian ships entering this area and that he is in frequent contact with A. P. GRACHEV, who is the only Russian remaining on the Pacific coast to handle Russian vessels. Informant stated that GRACHEV is trying to do the work of at least three or four men and that although he works almost day and night it is necessary for him to rely heavily on LEBEDEFER in this work. When GRACHEV is in the Los Angeles area LEBEDEFER meets him at the airport, arranges for hotel reservations and drives GRACHEV wherever he wishes to go, in LEBEDEFER's privately owned car.

[redacted] reported that on March 25, 1947 LEBEDEFER was talking to Dr. GOLDBERG, who has an office on the third floor of the Hartwell Building, Long Beach, California. At this time LEBEDEFER stated, "Do you know what is happening for Russia now? All of these speeches by Bevin and Marshall warn all Russians what to watch. All Russians will read these speeches and in his mind he will be ready for anything because he will see that all this will be lost in a war with foreigners and they are trying to shock us to death. They are morally prepared for anything because it creates the right ideas, because we are not aggressors but we must work, work and work to be prepared in case of this aggression that is prepared by this bunch here in the United States and England. Not a long time ago you could read in the American papers that Russians are not good, they are bad. Russian censorship never permitted them to get to the Russian people." On the same date LEBEDEFER told Dr. GOLDBERG, "All this talk in the papers about Communism is exactly the way Hitler talked when he wanted to take over Poland."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ [redacted] reported that on January 29, 1947 IVAN ZABELLO, head of the Long Beach Office of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, asked A. P. GRACHEV what about LEBEDEFER. GRACHEV stated, "Well, we can only recommend, and that is all."

L.A. 100-23834

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
 [redacted] reported that on February 28, 1947 LEBEDEFER explained that the function of the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company is to order supplies for Russian ships. Payment is to be made by the ship's captain when the goods are delivered, invoices are to be sent to LEBEDEFER who forwards them to AMTORG in New York City.

Source of Information T-1 furnished the following information concerning CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFER's relatives:

~~V~~  
LEON V. LEBEDEFER, a full brother of CONSTANTINE, resides at 1925 North Bronson Avenue, Los Angeles, California. His occupation is salesman for the Weill Company. His wife is DIANE LEBEDEFER and ex-wife is NATASHA LEBEDEFER. He has no children. LEON was described as being very pro-American, and has very little to do with CONSTANTINE because of CONSTANTINE's pro-Russian views. MRS. LEON V. LEBEDEFER

OLGA LEBEDEFER POLONSKY, a full sister of CONSTANTINE's, resides at 5818 Willoughby Avenue, Los Angeles, with her husband, GOURY BUCHICH, who is better known as GOURY POLONSKY. OLGA has two small children. Both OLGA and her husband are described as being very pro-Russian. GOURY POLONSKY is the subject of a separate case in the Los Angeles Office. MRS. OLGA LEBEDEFER POLONSKY

ZOYA LEBEDEFER WILLEY, a full sister of CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFER, resides with her husband, JAMES WILLEY, on Cloverdale Avenue. They have no children. She is a hat designer and has an office in Los Angeles. ZOYA appears to be pro-American. MRS. JAMES WILLEY

~~V~~  
V. B. VON ZONN, a half-brother, resides at 5812 Willoughby Avenue, Los Angeles. He is employed at the Douglas Aircraft Company, Santa Monica, California, and is believed to be pro-American.

~~V~~  
EUGENIA EDWARDOVNA VON ZONN, mother of CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFER, and her son, EDWARD BORIS VON ZONN, half-brother of CONSTANTINE, reside at 1047 North Oxford Avenue, Los Angeles. Mrs. VON ZONN is very pro-American and is deeply distressed because of CONSTANTINE's pro-Russian activities. EDWARD VON ZONN is believed to be pro-American.

~~V~~  
RUSTISOVA LEBEDEFER, a full brother of CONSTANTINE, is believed to be in the Soviet Union. He was last heard from in the early 'thirties, at which time he was in Russia.

Informant stated that Mrs. CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFER is the common-law wife of CONSTANTINE. Her real name is ALEXANDRA SHERMETT. She has worked at the studios, dancing as an extra, and had a ballet school in Pasadena in about 1939 or 1940. She has a daughter named TAMARA, who was married

L.A. 100-23834

to a man named CAMPBELL. She is either divorced or separated from him. TAMARA has a daughter about two years old. Informant was unable to state whether Mrs. LEBEDEFF is a citizen of this country, or when she arrived in the United States. He stated, however, that she speaks English very poorly which indicates to him that she has not been in the United States all of her life.

Concerning CONSTANTINE's previous employment informant stated that LEBEDEFF worked for Warner Brothers in about 1940 as a cartoonist, and for Walt Disney prior to 1940, also as a cartoonist. About 1937 he worked for "The Whip" (or "Beech in Russian") as a cartoonist. This was a magazine published in Los Angeles for a few years by a man named VOLSHIN, who at that time was very anti-Soviet. CONSTANTINE drew cartoons which were very unflattering to the Soviet Union. One in particular showed Stalin with bloody hands killing Russian people. After CONSTANTINE started working for the Russians in about 1943 he became greatly concerned as to whether or not any of these publications were in circulation. VOLSHIN, whose first name is unknown, has also had a change of political views and now very pro-Soviet. "The Whip" ceased publication about ten years ago.

SA WILLIAM L. BYRNE, JR. checked the personnel records of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Culver City, California, through Source T-2, on May 9, 1947. It was found that LEBEDEFF was employed for ten days in March 1937 as a dancer, Social Security Number 569-18-9050, under the name COSTIA VALDEMAR LEBEDEFF. He resided at 4674<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> La Mirada, Hollywood, California, and listed his occupation as artist.

Source T-3 advised that CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF and wife occupy the cottage formerly occupied by IVAN ZABELLO at 320-A Ximino, Long Beach, California.

- P E N D I N G -



L.A. 100-23834

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Long Beach and Los Angeles:

Will continue to maintain contact with informants and report activities of subjects.

At Los Angeles:

Will attempt to obtain copies of the publication "The Whip", which was published by VALSHIN in about 1937 and obtain copies of drawings of LEBEDEFF.

L.A. 100-23834

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

IDENTITIES OF INFORMANTS

SOURCE T-1: V. B. VON ZONN, 5812 Willoughby Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

SOURCE T-2: WHITEY HENDRY, Chief of Police, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Culver City, California.

SOURCE T-3: Mrs. LEOTA ~~WALL~~, Manager, Hartwell Building, Long Beach, California.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **100-18782**

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON, D. C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8-28-47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6-20-47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>LOUIS LOEBL</b> <b>WEH:JC</b>
TITLE <b>CONSTANTIN VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF, wa, et al</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Neither the subject or MORRIS BACH or the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company are registered with the Attorney General or the Department of State as agents of a foreign principal or of a foreign government.

- RUC -

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

**REFERENCE:** Letter from the Los Angeles Field Division dated June 9, 1947.

**DETAILS:** AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~Confidential, National Defense Informants~~ [redacted]  
known to the Bureau, advised Agent that neither CONSTANTIN VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF or MORRIS BACH or ~~THE SAN FRANCISCO SHIPPING SUPPLY COMPANY~~ has registered with the Attorney General as an Agent of a foreign principal or has been notified to the Secretary of State as an Agent of a foreign government.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

AGENCY cc 2118 Los Angeles  
REQ. REC'D 5 9-53  
REP'T FORW. 5 12-55  
BY 9/26/47

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**R 182 AUG 16 1962**

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IN CHARGE

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-23834**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10/1/47</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/14, 26, 28; 7/7; 9/4, 22/47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>RILEY L. MILLARD</b>
TITLE <b>CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, wa., Mrs. Constantine V. Lebedeff, nee Alexandra Shermett</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*Handwritten: Mrs. Constantine Lebedeff*

Mr. and Mrs. CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF, continue to occupy Room 315, Hartwell Building as employees of MORRIS BACH owner of the San Francisco Shipping Supply Co. LEBEDEFF continues to work long hours handling Russian ship activities in L. A. Harbor. He was sick for a week the last of August with a nervous breakdown. A. P. GRACHEV and other AMTORG Representatives have been in Long Beach frequently during the last three months. These men work from LEBEDEFF's office. LEBEDEFF continues to maintain frequent contact with the Soviet Vice Consulate in L.A. Attempts to locate copies of the publication "The Whip" unsuccessful to date.

AGENCY *cc SIB, Long Beach*  
REQ. REC'D *5 9 55*  
REP'T FORM. *5 77 55*  
BY *J. J. [illegible]*

- P -

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent RILEY L. MILLARD, Los Angeles, 6/30/47

DETAILS: [redacted] advised that subjects continue to occupy room 315 of the Hartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California. Payment for rent is made by MORRIS BACH, San Francisco Shipping Supply Company, San Francisco, California. Considerable activity appears to be going on from this office since several Russian speaking men have been noted in the office recently. GRACHEV has been in the office almost constantly during the past two months. GRACHEV appears to be in very good humor, but has expressed a keen desire to return to Russia.

[redacted] advised that CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF continues to work twelve to sixteen hours per day handling Russian ships entering this port. During GRACHEV's absence he issues orders and instructions on behalf of GRACHEV concern-

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="text-align: center;"><b>RECORDED &amp; INDEXED</b></div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 1 San Francisco (Information) 2 Los Angeles	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; transform: rotate(-5deg);"> <b>REC'D</b>  <b>CC 10</b>  <b>REC'D</b>  <b>CC 10</b> </div>

**SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. DISSEMINATION.**

LA 100-23834

ing movement of vessels, loading, etc. He is very close mouthed but occasionally extoles the virtues of the Russian way of life. During the last of August, LEBEDEFF was sick for a week and stated that he had a nervous break down.

\*CONF. INFO. [ ] reported that LEBEDEFF is in frequent touch with various members of the Soviet Vice Consulate especially when Russian ships are in port. On July 5, 1947, LEBEDEFF advised TUMANTZEV that GRACHEV had ordered the USSR KRASNAIA ARMIA to leave port as soon as possible and that the ship will leave tomorrow. (It will be noted that the KRASNAIA ARMIA arrived June 14, 1947, and departed without cargo July 7, 1947. This appears to have been caused by the freezing of oil exports to Russia.) On July 13, 1947, LEBEDEFF told GRACHEV that a Mr. COTTON wanted to see GRACHEV regarding letters of credit on gasoline cargo. On July 18, TUMANTZEV of the RC asked GRACHEV why MOORE McCORMACK stopped sending notices on arrivals and departures of Russian ships. GRACHEV stated that orders came from New York. TUMANTZEV stated that is stupid since he does not want to have to rely on LEBEDEFF. On August 16, LEBEDEFF advised TUMANTZEV that all passengers were aboard. (He probably referred to ALEXANDER KLUCHNIKOV, wife and son who sailed on the S. S. KOMILES). On September 9, LEBEDEFF advised BABANOV of the RC that the Chief Mate's papers on the KORAL are not in order. BABANOV stated that he would handle. On September 6, 1947, LEBEDEFF told BABANOV that two Russian sailors are in the San Pedro Hospital and that they would like some Russian literature to pass the time away.

T-1 advised that he has been unsuccessful in attempting to locate a copy of the publication "The Whip". He is continuing his search and will advise if copies are located.

T-2 and T-3 advised that they have been unable to locate copies of "The Whip".

T-4 advised that several representatives of AMTORG have been in Long Beach recently to assist with the Russian ships and that they make use of LEBEDEFF's office while there.

- P E N D I N G -

LA 100-23834

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

At Long Beach and Los Angeles: Will continue to maintain contact with informants and report activities of the subjects.

Will continue to attempt to locate copies of "The Whip" which was published by VALSHIN in about 1937 and obtain copies of the drawings of LEBEDEFF.

LA 100-23834

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Source T-1 - V. B. ~~VON~~ ZONNE  
5812 Willoughby Avenue  
Los Angeles, California

T-2 - DAVE ~~GER~~SHON,  
Reporter for Examiner  
San Pedro, California

T-3 - Mr. ~~B~~ARNES  
Advertising Manager,  
Press-Telegram  
Long Beach, California

T-4 - EARL ~~S~~AULTER,  
Moore McCormack,  
San Pedro, California



24132  
RECORDED  
68-348497-13

Assistant Attorney General T. Vincent Quinn  
Criminal Division

November 24, 1947

Director, FBI

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF; MORRIS BACH  
REGISTRATION ACT

There is attached a copy of a letter dated November 7, 1947,  
from our Los Angeles Office concerning the activity of the above-named  
individuals.

You are requested to advise whether Lebedeff or Bach have  
committed violations of the Registration Act and, if so, whether any  
additional specific investigation is desired.

Attachment

JDDI:rb

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 4  
★ NOV 24 1947 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 DEC 1 1947

NOTED DEC 1 1947  
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*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 7, 1947

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
REGISTRATION ACT

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF was born on December 31, 1904, in Poltow, Russia. He arrived in the United States at San Francisco on July 1, 1923, and was naturalized on September 3, 1929. He worked around the Hollywood studios during the 1930's and was employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, Long Beach, California, from 1944 to January 1947.

LEBEDEFF's duties while employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission included the ordering of supplies and repairs for the Russian ships, assisting the ships' captains in the handling of ships' papers with Customs and Immigration and Naturalization Service, and other routine matters pertaining to the business of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission.

When the SGPC office closed at Long Beach in January, 1947, LEBEDEFF opened an office at Room 315, Heartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, as an employee of the San Francisco Ship-Supply Company. This company is owned by MORRIS BACH, with main office in San Francisco. BACH is also of Russian origin and formerly worked for Moore-McCormack Steamship Company. For several years he has operated the San Francisco Ship Supply Company and has handled a great deal of business for the Amtorg Corporation and the SGPC, and is believed to have made large sums of money. When the SGPC closed in Long Beach, only one Russian representative was left on the Pacific Coast, ALEXANDER P. GRACHEV, who was formerly with SGPC but is now working through Amtorg Corporation of New York City.

Since January 1947, LEBEDEFF has acted in his old capacity in the handling of dozens of Russian ships entering this port. He has stated that he is a representative of Amtorg Corporation, has arranged for the handling of invoices of the Amtorg Corporation, negotiated prices in purchasing supplies, and otherwise acted as an agent of Amtorg.

It is believed that LEBEDEFF is actually paid by the San Francisco Ship Supply Company or MORRIS BACH. It will be noted that BACH performs the same functions for Amtorg in San Francisco as LEBEDEFF does in Long Beach. In addition, however, BACH has entered into negotiations on behalf of GRACHEV for the purchase of oil for Amtorg which has cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

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15 NOV 14 1947

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memo to Quinn  
11-24-47  
JDD

LA 100-23834

The Washington Field Office has advised that neither LEBEDEF  
nor BACH is registered with the Attorney General or the State Department.

The Bureau is requested to advise both Los Angeles and San Francisco whether the facts as stated constitute a Registration Act violation on the part of either BACH or LEBEDEF and whether investigation to prove the violation should be pursued.

RLM:KH  
100-23834  
cc San Francisco

SAC, Los Angeles

January 7, 1948

Director, FBI

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF;  
MORRIS BACH  
FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT

Reurlet November 7, 1947, summarizing the activities of Lebedeff and also showing the connection with Morris Bach in regard to a possible violation of the Registration Act. For your information, there is attached a copy of a memorandum dated December 24, 1947, which was received from the Department.

You will note from the Department memorandum that no specific investigation is requested and, accordingly, no action is necessary at this time. Any information, however, which comes to your attention should of course be transmitted to the Bureau for referral to the Department.

cc: San Francisco, with *DATA*

Enclosure

JDD/om

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 4

★ JAN 7 1948 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

SUBJECT: Constantine Vladimirovich Lebedeff;  
Morris Bach  
Foreign Agents Registration Act

DATE: December 24, 1947.

TVQ:WFF:NBL:ue

149-302

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Mohr	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Reference is made to your memorandum of November 24, 1947, requesting to be advised whether, in view of their activities, the above subjects have violated the Foreign Agents Registration Act through failure to register and whether further investigation is desired.

These cases are very similar to and to a certain extent connected with that of Amtorg Trading Corporation which is still in an investigative stage. Until a determination can be made as to the disposition of the Amtorg matter, viz., whether prosecution is warranted on the basis of representation of a foreign government in commercial matters alone, which is all that up to now is provable, it is felt that no determination should be made in the instant cases.

No specific investigation of the above subjects is requested, but this Division will appreciate receiving any information which may come to the Bureau's attention concerning them, whether or not related to their activities in connection with the Amtorg Trading Corporation.

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

EX-49

31 JAN 12 1948

Letter to Los Angeles  
1/2/48

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC Los Angeles

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

DATE: January 31  
1948

42867

Enclosed are two separate specimens of the handwriting of  
Key Figure CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF.

Additional specimens will be forwarded to the Bureau as  
obtained.

ENCLOSURES 2 REGISTERED MAIL

RLM:MEH  
100-23834

*Post  
2-24-48  
lmb  
Hc  
1/2/2*

*G. I. R. A.*

NO ANS. NEC. One  
SPEC. RETAINED IN LAB  
2-18-48  
H.D. Cee

RECORDED

100-34747-10  
F B I  
21 FEB 7 1948

*SEVEN  
FIVE  
J. Edgar  
M. Egan  
D. Egan*

ENCL ATTACHED

ENCL

Re: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)  
LOS ANGELES FILE 100-23834

ENCLOSURE TO FBI LABORATORY: 2 separate handwriting  
specimens of subject

100-348497-15

100-348497-15

part of 66

Consulate.

florader To check  
books and Renewals.  
Emigration

obtained 1-2-48.

Handwriting of Constantine  
LEBEDEFF - L.A. FILE 100-23834



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC Los Angeles

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

DATE: January 31  
1948

42868

In accordance with Bureau instructions, a photograph of Key Figure CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF is enclosed.

This photograph was made the latter part of 1942 or the early part of 1943, and is a very good likeness of subject, except that he no longer wears a mustache.

Enclosure 1

RLM:MEH  
100-23834

ENCL

RECORDED  
&

INDEXED

EX-7

89

SE 5

1100 - 342477 - 16  
F B I  
3 FEB 6 1948

FIVE

Re: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF  
INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

LOS ANGELES FILE 100-23834  
ENCLOSURE TO BUREAU: 1 PHOTO OF SUBJ.

*100-348497-16*



ENCLOSURE

100-348497-16

MR. & MRS. K. LEBEDEFF

MRS. LEBEDEFF

FORMERLY

MISS ALEXANDRA SHERMET

PICTURE TAKEN APPROX.

LATE '42 OR

EARLY '43

LEBEDEFF No Longer wears  
MUSTACHE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

April 2, 1948 CODE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, LOS ANGELES.....URGENT

PROGRESSIVE CITIZENS OF AMERICA. REURTEL MARCH THIRTY-ONE, LAST, ENTITLED  
"CONSTANTIN LEBEDEFF, IS-R". DUE TO HIGHLY POLITICAL NATURE PCA, AUTHORITY  
NOT GIVEN MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE ROOM THREE ONE FIVE, HEARTWELL BUILDING,  
LONG BEACH, WHICH WILL BE OCCUPIED BY PCA, LONG BEACH CHAPTER.

HOOVER

JDD/lc

RECORDED

EX-59

[100-348497-17](u)

ALL INFORMATION ON THIS  
PAGE IS CLASSIFIED  
UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE

Classified by SP6/bia/mw  
Declassify on: OADR 4/21/86

4/21/87 SP6/bia/mw

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

[100-348497-17](u)

TELETYPE

APR 2 1948

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

50 APR 15 1948

NW: 15675 D64d: 7000

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Per R

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-348497-394

NA  
WTB

SH

**F.B.I. TELETYPE**

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Donohue*  
*hl*  
*MS*

**DECODED COPY**

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

WASH 7 FROM LOS ANGELES 31 6-48 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

CONF. INFT.

CONSTANTIN LEBEDEFF, IS R. REBUTEL JANUARY 31, 1947, AUTHORIZING MICROPHONE SURVEILLANCE ON [REDACTED] SUBJECT MOVING FROM ROOM 315 HEARTWELL BUILDING, LONG BEACH, WHICH WILL BE OCCUPIED BY PCA LONG BEACH CHAPTER. REQUEST AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE USE OF MICROPHONE AS NEW PLANTS [REDACTED] ON GEORGE SHIBLEY, CHAIRMAN OF PCA, LONG BEACH, IS LOCATED SAME BUILDING. FULL SECURITY ASSURED. SUTEL.

HOOD

RECEIVED 3-31-48 10-00 PM EST

MOC

*cc. Mr. Donohue*

*Auth given to  
Cross Shibley per 502*

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

EX-61

100-348497-17  
F B I  
34 APR 6 1948

APR 15 1948

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

*any*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)


RE: CONSTANTIN LEBEDEFF;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

In accordance with your teletype dated April 2, 1948, this microphone surveillance has been permanently discontinued and was removed April 6, 1948. Symbol number used was [redacted]

R. B. Hood  
Jr

ICS:CFJ

**FOR VICTORY**



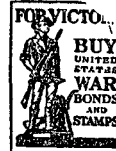
**BUY  
UNITED  
STATES  
DEFENSE  
BONDS  
AND  
STAMPS**

NW-15673 DocId: 70099503 Page 47



ral Bureau of Investiga  
United States Department of Justice  
Los Angeles 13, California  
April 19, 1948

FD-122



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Director, FBI

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF

RE: SECURITY MATTER

INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

It is recommended that a Security Index card be prepared relative to the individual named below:

Name: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF

Aliases: Costia Valdemar Lebedeff

Residence Address:

220 Ximeno St., Long Beach

Business Address: Unemployed

Native Born \_\_\_\_\_ Alien \_\_\_\_\_ X Naturalized \_\_\_\_\_  
X Communist \_\_\_\_\_ German \_\_\_\_\_ Miscellaneous \_\_\_\_\_  
Fascist (Italian) \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth 12-31-04

Place of Birth Poltow, Russia

Entered U. S. 7-1-23 at San Francisco, California

Naturalized (date) 9-3-29

Naturalized (place and Court) U.S. District Court, San Francisco

RECORDED

Very truly yours

R. B. Hood  
SAC

342497-19  
APR 26 1948

MLP:JAJ  
100-23834



*Received 5:05 AM  
4-27-48*

# F.B.I. TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(i)(1) - Intelligence Sources and Methods

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DECODED COPY

WASH 14 LOSA 1 FROM SAN FRANCISCO

26

8-25 PMPDST

CTB

DIRECTOR AND SAC

ROUTINE

CONSTANTINE V. <sup>0</sup>LEBEDEFF, IS-R.

ADVISED THAT SUBJECT

SUBJECT WAS OBSERVED VISITING AT SOVIET CONSULATE FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR. UPON LEAVING HE TOOK VERY CIRCUITOUS ROUTE, MAKING A TURN AT EACH BLOCK FOR SEVERAL BLOCKS. UPON REACHING HIGHWAY ONE HUNDRED ONE, HE STARTED OUT DIRECTLY IN DIRECTION OF LOS ANGELES WITHOUT FURTHER STOPPING. SUBJECT DRIVING FORTYTWO RED CHEVROLET AERO SEDAN LICENSE 3V9007.

KIMBALL

LOSA ADVISED

RECEIVED 4-26-48

11-14 PM EST

TOM

RECORDED

&amp;

INDEXED

1100-348497-20  
F B I  
21 APR 27 1948

EX-138

100-348497

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

# F.B.I. TELETYPE

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DECODED COPY

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

WASHINGTON 9 FROM LOS ANGELES 10 5:17 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, WA, ISR. EARL SALTER, MOORE - MC CORMACK SS LINE ADVISED TODAY SUBJECT VERY DISAPPOINTED AND PUT OUT ABOUT RUSSIANS AS THEY DID NOT HELP HIM GET EMPLOYMENT WHEN THEY LEFT AND DID NOT EVEN GIVE HIM A LETTER OR RECOMMENDATION. SUBJECT CLAIMS GRACHEV BEFORE LEAVING U.S. DID NOT ANSWER HIS LETTERS AND THAT HE HAD WRITTEN N.Y., APPARENTLY AMTORG, AND RECEIVED NO ENCOURAGEMENT. SUBJECT IS VERY HARD PRESSED FINANCIALLY AND FEELS HE GOT RAW DEAL. HIS ONLY PROSPECT OF EMPLOYMENT IS TO TEMPORARILY ACT AS INTERPRETER FOR LONG BEACH MARINE SHIP REPAIRS WHILE CHUKOTKA AND RUSSIAN SCHOONER IN LA HARBOR. CHUKOTKA SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE MAY FOURTEEN AND DEPART MAY EIGHTEEN WITH CONSULATE PERSONNEL FROM S.F. SUBJECT RECENTLY VISITED AFINASIEV IN S.F. AND AFINASIEV HAS REQUESTED SAZANOV, N.Y., TO GIVE SUBJECT LETTER STATING MORRIS BACH'S S.F. SHIPPING SUPPLY CO. IS NOT EXCLUSIVE AGENT ON WEST COAST. SUBJECT APPARENTLY HOPES TO DO SOME OF THIS BUSINESS, WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE MEAGER. SUBJECT IS SOMEWHAT EMOTIONALLY UPSET AT PRESENT AND [REDACTED] HAS ADVISED IN PAST SOVIET PERSONNEL, LA, DID NOT FULLY TRUST SUBJECT. RECENTLY LEARNED SUBJECT'S TELEPHONE INDEX HAS NAME OF EUGENIA AFINOGENOVA, HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS SUBJECT OF CURRENT INVESTIGATION IN LA, WHO IS TO DEPART U.S. ON CHUKOTKA WITH SOVIET PERSONNEL FROM S.F. AFINASIEV HAS STATED AFINOGENOVA HAS TO GO ON CHUKOTKA. BUREAU REQUESTED TO NOTE POSSIBILITY SUBJECT MAY BE IVAN LEBEDEFF, REFERRED TO BY [REDACTED] AS SOVIET SPY, AND ADVISE DESIRABILITY OF INTERVIEWING SUBJECT.

COPIES DESTROYED

1182 AUG 16 1962

100-353170

RECEIVED:

5-10-48

RECORDED: 26

9:16 PM

JUN 15 1948

S.F. ADVISED.

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

JUN 7 1948

WAB

## F.B.I. TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DECODED COPY

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

WASHINGTON 9 FROM LOS ANGELES

10

5:17 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

*According to*  
 CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEV, WA, ISR. EARL SALTER, MOORE +  
 MC CORMACK SS LINE ADVISED TODAY SUBJECT VERY DISAPPOINTED AND  
 PUT OUT ABOUT RUSSIANS AS THEY DID NOT HELP HIM GET EMPLOYMENT  
 WHEN THEY LEFT AND DID NOT EVEN GIVE HIM A LETTER OR RECOMMENDATION.  
 SUBJECT CLAIMS GRACHEV BEFORE LEAVING U.S. DID NOT ANSWER HIS  
 LETTERS AND THAT HE HAD WRITTEN N.Y., APPARENTLY AMTORG, AND  
 RECEIVED NO ENCOURAGEMENT. SUBJECT IS VERY HARD PRESSED FINANCIALLY  
 AND FEELS HE GOT RAW DEAL. HIS ONLY PROSPECT OF EMPLOYMENT IS TO  
 TEMPORARILY ACT AS INTERPRETER FOR LONG BEACH MARINE SHIP REPAIRS  
 WHILE CHUKOTKA AND RUSSIAN SCHOONER IN LA HARBOR. CHUKOTKA SCHEDULED  
 TO ARRIVE MAY FOURTEEN AND DEPART MAY EIGHTEEN WITH CONSULATE  
 PERSONNEL FROM S.F. SUBJECT RECENTLY VISITED AFINASIEV IN S.F.  
 AND AFINASIEV HAS REQUESTED SAZANOV, N.Y., TO GIVE SUBJECT LETTER  
 STATING MORRIS BACH'S S.F. SHIPPING SUPPLY CO. IS NOT EXCLUSIVE  
 AGENT ON WEST COAST. SUBJECT APPARENTLY HOPES TO DO SOME OF THIS  
 BUSINESS, WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE MEAGER. SUBJECT IS SOMEWHAT  
 EMOTIONALLY UPSET AT PRESENT AND [REDACTED] HAS ADVISED IN PAST  
 SOVIET PERSONNEL, LA, DID NOT FULLY TRUST SUBJECT. RECENTLY  
 LEARNED SUBJECT'S TELEPHONE INDEX HAS NAME OF EUGENIA AFINOGENOVA,  
 HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS SUBJECT OF CURRENT INVESTIGATION IN LA, WHO IS TO  
 DEPART U.S. ON CHUKOTKA WITH SOVIET PERSONNEL FROM S.F. AFINASIEV  
 HAS STATED AFINOGENOVA HAS TO GO ON CHUKOTKA. BUREAU REQUESTED TO  
 NOTE POSSIBILITY SUBJECT MAY BE IVAN LEBEDEV, REFERRED TO BY  
 [REDACTED] AS SOVIET SPY, AND ADVISE DESIRABILITY OF INTER-  
 VIEWING SUBJECT.

S.F. ADVISED.

HOOD

RECEIVED: 5-10-48 9:16 PM MW

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated  
 outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in  
 order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

INDEXED - 26 To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

MAY 13, 1948

URGENT CODE AS UNDERLINED

RECORDED - 26 Transmit the following message to:

100-348497-22  
C43

SAC, LOS ANGELES  
SAN FRANCISCO

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDOFF, WA, IS DASH R. REURTEL MAY TEN, LAST.

IN VIEW OF IDENTIFICATION OF LEBEDOFF AS A SOVIET AGENT BY INFORMANT

NO INTERVIEW SHOULD BE CONDUCTED AT THIS TIME.

HOOVER

WAB:lf

CC-NEW YORK VIA MAIL  
CC-WFO VIA MESSENGER

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

TELETYPE

MAY 13 1948

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS  
MAY 13 8 55 PM '48

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
MAY 13 5 21 PM '48

51 JUN 5 1948

NW: 15675-1000 70099505 Page 52

8:07 PM

Per

## F.B.I. TELETYPE

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DECODED COPY

CONF WASHINGTON S10 - LOS ANGELES S2 FROM SAN FRANCISCO  
5:13 PM PDST GLG

5-12-48

DIRECTOR AND SAC, LOS ANGELES URGENT

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH<sup>①</sup> LEBEDEFF, WAS, INTERNAL SECURITY R.  
RE LOS ANGELES TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU MAY TEN LAST. SUGGEST  
INTERVIEW WITH LEBEDEFF NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE CONDUCTED

KIMBALL

RECEIVED: 5-12-48 8:54 PM MW

INDEXED - 26

RECORDED - 26

ent 3

100-348497-22  
FBI  
32 MAY 15 1948

GWRB

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

cc - Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Donohue

May 21, 1948

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED - 126 100-348497-23

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

In connection with an investigation to determine if Constantine Lebedeff is engaged in espionage or related activities, on behalf of the Soviet Government, authorization is requested to place a technical surveillance on his residence telephone, 87493, located at 220 - A Xenino Street, Long Beach, California.

Lebedeff was born December 31, 1904 at Poltow, Russia. He immigrated to the United States from Manila, Philippine Islands, arriving at San Francisco, on July 1, 1923. He was naturalized on September 3, 1929. Lebedeff was employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission at Long Beach, California, during January 1944. His services were terminated on October 15, 1945, but he was re-employed during the period from April 1946 to January 1947. His duties included the ordering of supplies and repairs for the Russian ships and assisting the ship's captains in the handling of papers with the Customs and the Immigration and Naturalization Services.

In January of 1947, the SGPC closed its office at Long Beach, California. At that time Lebedeff opened an office at Room 315 Heartwell Building in Long Beach as an employee of the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company. This company is owned by Morris Bach who has for several years handled a great deal of business for the Amtorg Trading Corporation and the SGPC. Since January, 1947, Lebedeff has acted in his old capacity handling matters pertaining to the Russian vessels which arrived at Long Beach. He has stated that he is a representative of Amtorg and has acted as their agent. It is believed, however, that actually he is paid by the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company or Morris Bach.

(Ibid, Ser. 13)

A technical surveillance was previously placed on Lebedeff to ascertain his activities, but was discontinued after no information was obtained indicating that Lebedeff was engaged in espionage activities.

JAS:mvb

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME 12:25  
DATE 5-24-48  
BY [initials]

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

This new request is being made inasmuch as information has recently been furnished by a confidential informant that Lebedeff has actually been engaged in espionage activities on behalf of the Soviet Government.

I recommend authorization of this technical surveillance in order to fully develop and cover the activities of Lebedeff.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

# F.B.I. TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DECODED COPY

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

WASH 7 FROM LOS ANGELES

51 6-1

6-23P

DIRECTOR URGENT

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, IS DASH R. AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED FOR TECHNICAL COVERAGE SUBJECTS HOME, 220-A XEMINO ST., LONG BEACH, TELEPHONE LONG BEACH 87493 INASMUCH AS HE HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS SOVIET AGENT BY INFORMANT [REDACTED] S. F. LONG BEACH PLANT TO BE USED. APPROXIMATE COST TWENTY DOLLARS PER MONTH. NO ADDITIONAL MANPOWER. FULL SECURITY ASSURED. HOOD

RECEIVED

5-15-48

9-50 P.M.

SWA

CORRECTED

10-55 P.M.

RECORDED - 126

100-348497-23  
 F B I  
 34 MAY 25 1948

FIVE

100-348497-

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.



# F.B.I. TELETYPE

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DECODED COPY

WASH 24 AND LOSA 3 FROM SAN FRANCISCO 19

6-20 PM PDST

DIRECTOR AND SAC

URGENT

SODAC, IS-R. VICTOR AFANASIEV, SOVIET VICE CONSUL, AND VASILI BORISOV, CHAUFFEUR, DEPARTED SIX AM TODAY IN BLACK BUICK SEDAN, CALIFORNIA LIC-ENSE ONE J SEVEN SIX ONE EIGHT, EN ROUTE TO L.A. [REDACTED] HAS ADVISED THEY WILL STOP AT HOTEL WILTON AND WILL CONTACT CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF. TRIP APPARENTLY MADE IN CONNECTION WITH VISIT OF SS UMBA AND OTHER SOVIET SCHOONERS AT LONG BEACH.

LOS ANGELES ADVISED

RECEIVED

5-19-48

10-22 PM PDST

45 MAY 22 1948

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in order to protect the Bureau's coding systems.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DATE: May 27, 1948

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Confidential Informant [ ] advised on May 3, 1948, that one LEBEDEFF is definitely working for the espionage parallel with which OLGA ARTEIOFF is identified, [ ]

He was installed as one of their agents at the time SEMEN SEMENOV was working in this area and subsequently worked for PETER GAVRILOV, for whom he is presently working. He further stated that Miss ARTEIOFF is working as an intermediary between LEBEDEFF and GAVRILOV.

According to the informant, LEBEDEFF has a girl working for him originally reported by him as an American girl of Russian descent.

The above information was furnished to the Bureau and interested offices by teletype entitled OLGA ARTEIOFF, ESPIONAGE - R, dated May 3, 1948. At that time, LEBEDEFF's first name was inadvertently reported as IVAN. However, since that time, the informant has indicated that it is probably CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, the individual discussed in Los Angeles letter to the Bureau dated May 4, 1948, in the ARTEIOFF case.

On May 11, 1948, Confidential Informant [ ] in discussing the girl who is working for LEBEDEFF, stated that to the best of his recollection, her first name is VERA; that she was born in Sacramento and actually is an American of Russian descent, rather than a Russian-American, as previously reported.

Confidential Informant [ ] LEBEDEFF on occasion reports directly to AFANASIEV of the San Francisco Soviet Consulate; that these reports deal with activities of the White Russian colony in Los Angeles. In connection with the statement that LEBEDEFF reports directly to AFANASIEV, it is noted that Confidential Informant [ ] has furnished considerable information recently showing that AFANASIEV has been in close contact with LEBEDEFF.

FOIA(b)(3) - 50 USC 3024(b)(1) - Intelligence Sources and Methods

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R 132 AUG 16 1962

52 JUL 13 1948

RECORDED - 47

INDEXED - 47

31 JUN 8 1948

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Director from SAC, San Francisco

May 27, 1948

RE: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

It is suggested that the possibility be considered of establishing complete coverage on LEBEDEFF in view of the statement by [redacted] that OLGA ARTEM OFF acts as courier between LEBEDEFF and GAVRILOV.

DCS/jc  
100-26961  
cc Bufile 100-353947  
cc 2 Los Angeles A.S.D  
2 New York  
2 Wash Field  
2 Seattle  
1 SF File 100-28017

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-23834

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/2/48</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/7,9,12,17/47; 1/13,14,27,2/13; 3/9,29,30;4/4, 5,19,23/48</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>GEORGE J. NAGEL</b> <span style="float: right;">DRU</span>
TITLE <b>CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, wa., Mrs. Constantine V. Lebedeff, nee Alexandra Shermett</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject no longer associated with San Francisco Shipping Company. MORRIS BACH closed Long Beach, California, office on March 30, 1948 and sold office furniture. Office records presently at Pier 50, Long Beach, awaiting shipment to Russia. LEBEDEFF unemployed, has sought reemployment with Amtorg Trading Corporation. Visited USSR Consulate San Francisco, California on April 4, 1948. Is also seeking connections with commercial firms in LA labor area.

*AGENCY 1cc DNS In Argde  
REQ. REC'D 5-9-55  
REP'T FORM 5-12-55  
BY J. E. [unclear]  
re: Alexander V.  
Lebedeff (Spence)*

- P -

**REFERENCE:** Report of SA Riley L. Millard dated 10/1/47 at Los Angeles.

**DETAILS:** On October 7, 1947, VSEVOLOD VON SONN, Manager of Publications, Douglas Aircraft, Santa Monica, advised that CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF was in Los Angeles on October 2 and 3, 1947 and contacted his brother, EDWARD ZONN and BOUYAKOVICH, also known as GOURY POLONSKY, a brother-in-law of the subject, for information concerning IGOR REVERDITTO, who had served with the United States Army Eighth Air Force Intelligence in Russia.

According to VON SONN, IGOR became involved in a brawl in Russia and was transferred out of the country to avoid an incident. The subject, LEBEDEFF, claimed that IGOR was thrown out of Russia for espionage. LEBEDEFF would not disclose the reason he was seeking IGOR but expressed the belief that he was probably in Long Beach, California.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-26961) 1 - San Francisco (100-26961) (Information) 2 - Los Angeles		100-348497-26 JUN 5 1948 RECORDED - 25 INDEXED - 25 SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD. DISSEMINATION.

L.A. 100-23834

Mrs. ALIA BAUMANN, 1852 West Thoreau, advised that IGOR REVERDITO (as spelled by this informant) was born in China or Japan. She advised that she considered him a pathological liar and completely untrustworthy. She recalled that he attended Los Angeles City College; and when she last heard from him, he was in the United States Army in Maryland. [redacted] advised that IGOR is now out of the Army and has been in Long Beach, California since the spring of 1947, probably living with his mother. ~~CONF. INFO.~~

It is believed that IGOR's wife works. IGOR himself was trying to get into the movies and is not engaged in any type of employment. His address was not known to the informant. The telephone number where he could be reached was given as Long Beach 468596.

It was ascertained from EARL SAULTER, of the Moore McCormack Steamship Company, Berth 48, Long Beach, California, that during November and December 1947 until January 1948 LEBEDEF was continued to perform many services as purchasing of supplies, furnishing transportation, and the like, in connection with the needs of the Russian vessels arriving in the Los Angeles Harbor.

He continued to maintain his offices in Room 315 of the Heartwell Building located at 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach. His wife was no longer working there in the office. LEBEDEF himself was occasionally out of town for a few days at a time. He continued to reside at 220-A Ximeno, Long Beach. ~~CONF. INFO.~~

[redacted] advised on February 18, 1948 that LEBEDEF had not paid his office telephone bill since November, and the telephone company was getting very concerned. He usually runs up a rather large bill. ~~CONF. INFO.~~

On this same date, [redacted] advised that A. P. GRACHEV, representative of the Soviet Purchasing Commission, San Francisco, made the statement during his visit in Long Beach from February 5 to 18, 1948 that LEBEDEF would probably be closing his office in Long Beach in the near future as there would be no other Russian vessels calling at that port on which LEBEDEF's services could be used. GRACHEV had previously stated that there were some forty-two additional Soviet sailing ships scheduled to call at Long Beach in the near future for repairs, and when asked if the services of LEBEDEF would be used on these, GRACHEV replied, "No, he doesn't work for us."

It was ascertained from [redacted] that during this period LEBEDEF was spending very little time in his office in the Heartwell Building. He came in in the evenings, usually, for a short time, to pick up registered mail notices. He had moved all of his personal papers and effects from the office, and about the only things left were some order forms.

On March 9, 1948, VLADIMIR N. KOUDRIASHEV, director of the Transportation Department, Amtorg Trading Corporation, New York City, arrived in Long Beach, California in company of LEBEDEF. KOUDRIASHEV registered at

L.A. 100-23834

the Wilton Hotel and checked out on March 9, 1948 at 10:30 a.m. During KOUDRIASHEV's visit, he was constantly in the company of LEBEDEF, who took him on a conducted tour of the harbor area and attempted to obtain for him a current detailed map of the Los Angeles Harbor area.

[redacted] the purpose of KOUDRIASHEV's visit to Long Beach was to look over the harbor and acquaint himself with the set-up. It was pointed out that in the future Russian vessels calling at the Los Angeles Harbor would be handled by a representative of the Amtorg Trading Corporation who would fly to the west coast from New York. It was indicated, however, that LEBEDEF would continue in his former capacity handling supplies and services for the vessels; and it was noted that he had a new telephone number, Long Beach 79829.

According to [redacted] LEBEDEF claimed to have no connection with Amtorg; and his only income was from his activities in connection with the Russian vessel, which is a commission which he must split with his boss, BACH, in San Francisco. This would not amount to a great deal of money. In fact, it would not be sufficient for him to maintain an office in Long Beach and cover his other normal expenses.

LEBEDEF's wife was not working. It was the opinion of this informant that LEBEDEF was probably getting additional moneys from Amtorg or some other similar source. In connection with his association with KOUDRIASHEV, LEBEDEF explained that it happened that he was in San Francisco and that he ran into KOUDRIASHEV and offered to bring him to Long Beach to acquaint him with the set-up there. It is to be noted that they drove from San Francisco to Long Beach in LEBEDEF's personal automobile. During the time that KOUDRIASHEV was in Long Beach, LEBEDEF handled all arrangements and plans as well as the telephoning. He visited KOUDRIASHEV at the Wilton Hotel frequently during that period.

[redacted] advised that on the morning of March 30, 1948 MORRIS BACH was in the company of LEBEDEF at the Heartwell Building and that BACH advised the building management that they were closing their offices in Room 315 of the building immediately. Shortly thereafter, BACH called in representatives from used furniture houses, sold the office furniture, and closed the office that same day.

EARL SAULTER, port representative of Moore McCormack Steamship Company, advised that BACH and LEBEDEF had been in touch with him and that BACH told him that he was closing the Long Beach office and that it would put LEBEDEF out of a job. Suggestions were sought from SAULTER as to where LEBEDEF might obtain employment. BACH suggested that LEBEDEF might get a job as salesman with C. J. Henry Company or some other ship supplier in the harbor

L.A. 100-23834

area, and when a Soviet vessel called at the port, he could give up this job and work on the Soviet ship. SAULTER told him that he did not think this would work out as the local ship supplier would not go for such a deal. It was then decided that LEBEDEFER would communicate with Amtorg Trading Corporation headquarters in New York City and seek reemployment with them. It was first thought that this could be handled through A. P. GRACHEV, former west coast representative, but it was learned that GRACHEV had closed his office in San Francisco and had already sailed for Russia through the port of New York City.

It was decided that LEBEDEFER would write directly to Amtorg and see if he could handle the deal himself. Possibilities were also suggested that LEBEDEFER might try to get a job with the studios in Hollywood, but he expressed a desire to continue to work with the Russians if it was in any way possible.

The San Francisco Office advised that an individual meeting the description of LEBEDEFER was observed visiting the Russian consulate at San Francisco on April 4, 1948. On leaving the consulate office, he behaved in a suspicious manner, walking around the city for about three hours in what appeared to be an attempt to see if he was being surveilled. He appeared to be highly nervous. It was ascertained that he left San Francisco for Long Beach, California on a Greyhound bus using the unused portion of a round trip ticket which was good only to Los Angeles. He left on trip #152, bus #790, which was scheduled to arrive at the Los Angeles terminal at 6:20 a.m. on April 5, 1948.

Description of this individual is as follows:

Age:	About 40
Height:	5 ft. 11 in.
Weight:	150 lbs.
Build:	Slender
Characteristics:	Thin face with high cheek bones
Ears:	Stick out when seen from behind
Clothing:	Wearing black raincoat similar to Navy issue, black broad-toed shoes, dark blue gray snap brim hat, bright blue tie, and black trousers

L.A. 100-23834

It was ascertained that this individual arrived at the Greyhound bus terminal at Los Angeles at 6:25 a.m. and at 6:30 a.m. boarded a bus at the terminal, arriving at Long Beach, California at 7:38 a.m. on April 5, 1948. On arriving at Long Beach, he made several maneuvers around on the street giving the impression that he was trying to detect a surveillance. He then boarded a bus marked Broadway and Twelfth and departed from the bus at Ximeno and Long Beach. He walked directly to 220A Ximeno Avenue and entered the house. It was ascertained that this is the residence and the description of CONSTANTINE LEBEDEFF.

It was ascertained that the subject is presently driving a 1942 red Chevrolet club coupe bearing 1947 California registration number 3V9007.

He has recontacted EARL SAULTER and requested from him a letter of recommendation entitled "To Whom It May Concern" to assist him in procuring employment in the Los Angeles Harbor area. SAULTER has declined to furnish such a letter.

P E N D I N G



L.A. 100-23834

LEAD:

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

At Long Beach and Los Angeles: Will continue to maintain contact with informants and report activity of the subjects.

Will continue to attempt to locate copies of "The Whip" which were published by VALSHIN in about 1937, and secure copies of the drawings contained in this publication which were made by LEBEDEF.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

JDD:map To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

URGENT - CODE

Transmit the following message to:

MAY 26, 1948

SAC, LOS ANGELES

RECORDED - 104

100-348497-27

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEV, WAS., IS - R. AUTHORITY GRANTED  
INSTALLATION TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE RESIDENCE LEBEDEV, TWO TWO ZERO DASH A  
XEMINO STREET, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, TELEPHONE EIGHT SEVEN FOUR NINE THREE,  
PROVIDED FULL SECURITY ASSURED. ADVISE TIME, DATE, INSTALLATION, SYMBOL NUMBER  
AND PLANT LOCATION.

HOOVER

CC \* Mr. J. A. Swartz

G. I. R. 9

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS  
TELETYPE  
MAY 26 1948  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

RECEIVED  
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RADIO COMMUNICATIONS  
MAY 26 1948

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6:55 P

Per

NW: 5673 DocId: 70099503 Page 66

SENT VIA

JUN 17 1948



United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

May 21, 1948

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE No. \_\_\_\_\_

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

In connection with an investigation to determine if Constantine Lebedeff is engaged in espionage or related activities on behalf of the Soviet Government, authorization is requested to place a technical surveillance on his residence telephone, 87493, located at 220 - A Xemino Street, Long Beach, California.

Lebedeff was born December 31, 1904 at Poltow, Russia. He immigrated to the United States from Manila, Philippine Islands, arriving at San Francisco, on July 1, 1923. He was naturalized on September 3, 1929. Lebedeff was employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission at Long Beach, California, during January 1944. His services were terminated on October 15, 1945, but he was re-employed during the period from April 1946 to January 1947. His duties included the ordering of supplies and repairs for the Russian ships and assisting the ship's captains in the handling of papers with the Customs and the Immigration and Naturalization Services.

In January of 1947, the SGPC closed its office at Long Beach, California. At that time Lebedeff opened an office at Room 315 Heartwell Building in Long Beach as an employee of the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company. This company is owned by Morris Bach who has for several years handled a great deal of business for the Amtorg Trading Corporation and the SGPC. Since January, 1947, Lebedeff has acted in his old capacity handling matters pertaining to the Russian vessels which arrived at Long Beach. He has stated that he is a representative of Amtorg and has acted as their agent. It is believed, however, that actually he is paid by the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company or Morris Bach.

A technical surveillance was previously placed on Lebedeff to ascertain his activities, but was discontinued after no information was obtained indicating that Lebedeff was engaged in espionage activities.

KEEP IN F. B. I. FILES

6/3/48 G.F.S.

*Teletype to Los Angeles*  
*5-26-48*


100-348497-27  
FBI

RECORDED - 104 31 JUN 4 1948  
EX-20

This new request is being made inasmuch as information has recently been furnished by a confidential informant that Lebedeff has actually been engaged in espionage activities on behalf of the Soviet Government.

I recommend authorization of this technical surveillance in order to fully develop and cover the activities of Lebedeff.

Respectfully,

  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

MAILED 3 JUN 1950

100-348497 ✓

July 19, 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Special Agent in Charge  
Los Angeles

RE: SECURITY MATTER

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a security index card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

LEBEDEFF, CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH  
Alias: Costia Valdemar Lebedeff

NATURALIZED  
(RUSSIAN)

COMMUNIST

Residence address: 220 Ximeno Street  
Long Beach, California

Business Address: Unemployed

The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5" x 8" white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Security Index Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

The caption of the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 1

JUL 19 1948 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

C D

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Los Angeles 13, California  
June 2, 1948

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Technical surveillance established on the above individual's residence at 220-A Ximeno Street, Long Beach, California, telephone Long Beach 87493, at 1:00 P.M., June 2, 1948.

*X leaf 9 out* [ ] Plant located in Room 1215 Heartwell Building, 19 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, California. Full security assured.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
R. B. HOOD  
SAC

~~G.I.R.-9~~

*Rm*

[ ]

ICS:gmw

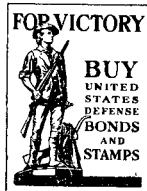
AIR MAIL

SE 16

100-348497-28

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31 JUN 9 1948

RECORDED - 70  
INDEXED - 79



150  
60 JUN 21 1948

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*[Signatures]*  
RECEIVED  
JUN 11 1948

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-23834

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 9/16/48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/27, 30; 5/3-5, 10, 15-17; 6/2, 3, 8, 12, 14, 17, 23, 24; 7/1, 2, 6-8, 26-30; 8/2-5, 10/48.	REPORT MADE BY GEORGE J. NAGEL MEH
TITLE CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, with aliases: Costia Valdemar Lebedeff, Richard Constant Lebedeff;		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY (R)	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:			

Mrs. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, nee Alexandra Shermett

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

[redacted] reports LEBEDEFF installed as Soviet agent by SEMEN MARKOVICH SEMENOV, was... at Los Angeles, California, during visit 1944, and that LEBEDEFF worked on same espionage parallel as OLGA NIKOLAEVNA ARTEMOFF, was... LEBEDEFF continues to be active in connection with Soviet vessels at Los Angeles harbor, and during their most recent visit, May-June 1948, was in contact with VICTOR AFANASIEV, Soviet Vice-Consul from San Francisco; MORRIS BACH; and NYC Amtorg representative. LEBEDEFF signed as agent on export declaration for EUGENIA AFINOGENOVA, whose personal effects were shipped to Russia on Soviet vessel SS. UMBA from San Pedro, California. Subject currently active in Harbor area, contacting owners of fishing vessels and small pleasure craft, attempting to sell marine and industrial hardware supplies; is presently contemplating setting up an office as a dealer and is negotiating with the Bendix Aviation Corp. to sell a marine depth recorder manufactured by that concern. Results of mail cover set out.

AGENCY: INS Los AngelesREQ. REC'D: 5-9-55REP'T FORW. 5-17-55BY: 244/1/bkre: Alexander V. Lebedeff (spouse)

COPIES DESTROYED

R 182 AUG 16 1962

- P -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. B. Wood</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		100-348497-29	
5 Bureau		33 SEP 21 1948	
2 San Diego		RECORDED - 61	
2 San Francisco		INDEXED - 61	
2 New York			
3 Los Angeles			

NW: 153 OCT 7 1948

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SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. DISSEMINATION.

LA 100-23834

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent GEORGE J. NAGEL dated June 2, 1948, at Los Angeles

DETAILS: The title of this case is being changed to include the alias RICHARD CONSTANT LEBEDEFF, the name in which the subject has his California State operator's license, when renewed June 14, 1948.

San Francisco letter dated May 27, 1948, entitled, "CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was. - INTERNAL SECURITY (R)," sets forth information that [redacted] at San Francisco reported that, according to [redacted] was. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF was installed as a Soviet agent by SEMEN MARKOVICH SEMENOV, at the time SEMENOV was working in the Los Angeles area. This informant stated further that it was his understanding that LEBEDEFF worked in the same espionage parallel as OLGA NIKOLAEVNA ARTEMOFF.

The Los Angeles files reflect that SEMENOV was in Los Angeles around March 21, 1944, and [redacted] advised that LEBEDEFF commenced work with the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, Long Beach, California, in January 1944. This original employment was terminated on October 15, 1945. According to [redacted] LEBEDEFF was allegedly working for PETER GAVRILOV, with OLGA ARTEMOFF serving as a go-between. LEBEDEFF was allegedly interested in obtaining information concerning aircraft.

Special Employee BASCOM SHANKS obtained the following information from the Registrar of Voters in Los Angeles:

CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF registered to vote on January 15, 1936; May 6, 1939; and September 19, 1940, all from the address of 4674 $\frac{1}{2}$  LaMirada Avenue, Los Angeles. On November 28, 1947, he registered to vote from 220 A Ximeno Avenue, Long Beach, California, which is his present address. In 1936 he gave his occupation as an artist. In 1939 he showed his employment as Leon Schlosinger Productions, and in 1937 he gave his occupation as representative. Other information obtained from this source reflects he was born in Russia. He was naturalized by decree of the court on September 3, 1929 at San Francisco, California, No. 3129897. His Party affiliation was Democrat. His wife's name was shown as SHURA.

By letter dated May 17, 1948, the Baltimore Office advised that [redacted] furnished the following information pertaining to the subject's employment record:



LA 100-23834

12/46 - 9/47

~~MORRIS BACH~~  
San Francisco Ship Supply Company  
820 Ortega Street  
San Francisco, 22, California

9/46

Screen Gems, Incorporated ✓  
861 North Seward Street, Los Angeles, California

9/46

~~MORRIS BACH~~

3/46

~~Screen Gems, Incorporated~~ ✓

3/46

~~MORRIS BACH~~

12/45

Screen Gems, Incorporated ✓

9/44

~~Warner Brothers Cartoons, Incorporated~~  
1351 North Van Ness Avenue  
Hollywood 28, California

3/44 - 6/44

~~Amtorg Trading Corporation~~ ✓  
210 Madison Avenue, New York City

12/42 - 3/44

~~Leon Schlesinger Products~~  
1351 North Van Ness Avenue  
Los Angeles, California

12/42

Screen Gems, Incorporated ✓

9/38 - 9/42

Leon Schlesinger Products

6/38

~~HARRY J. DOERR~~  
631 North Sycamore Avenue  
Los Angeles 36, California

6/38

~~CHARLES BELBRIDGE~~  
1246 Daniels Street  
Los Angeles, California

6/38

~~J. E. HOOKIN~~, dba  
Mutual Painting and Redecorating Company  
7407 Beverly Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California

3/38

ARTHUR B. ~~MOSES~~  
1037 South Bronson Street  
Los Angeles, California

6/37

~~Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Corporation~~  
~~1540 Broadway~~  
New York City, N. Y.

6/37

~~Selznick International Pictures, Incorporated~~  
~~9336 Washington Boulevard~~  
Culver City, California

6/37

ARTHUR B. MOSES  
1037 South Bronson Street  
Los Angeles, California

6/37

~~Warner Brothers Pictures, Incorporated~~  
Burbank, California

Special Agent RALPH C. VOGEL contacted the following movie studios with negative results in an effort to develop further background on LEBEDEFF: Universal, Monogram, Republic, Paramount, Disney, and Warner Brothers.

Special Agent WILLIAM L. BYRNE, JR. checked the following studios with negative results: Selznick, Twentieth Century Fox and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

In connection with the reported anti-Soviet cartoons which LEBEDEFF drew for a Russian language publication known as "~~The Whip~~" ("Beech" - Russian), Special Employee ANATOLE N. OSSIPOFF secured from a confidential source a copy of this publication dated May 1937 and numbered Volume 11, No. 17. According to the masthead of this issue, the magazine was published in New York City, and the editor was V. M. ~~WILLUM~~. The address of the publication was shown as 267 East Tenth Street, New York City. It was ascertained from the confidential source that the Los Angeles correspondent for "The Whip" was ALEXANDER ~~VOLOSHIN~~, who presently resides in Hollywood, California, and who is reported to have changed his political views and is now extremely pro-Soviet. It was noted that cartoons appearing in this issue of the magazine were signed "~~KOTIK~~" and "~~KOSTIK~~". It is not known whether this was a pen name used by LEBEDEFF.

During the period from May 16, 1948 to June 12, 1948, at which time the five Soviet vessels, the UMBA, ULBA, MIDIA, JEMCHOOG and AKTINIA, were in the Los Angeles harbor for repairs and supplies, LEBEDEF was active in connection with these vessels. During this period he was actually employed by the Long Beach Marine Repair (Shipyard) at Long Beach, California, as an interpreter. Repairs to the vessels were being made by this shipyard. During this period he was in contact with VICTOR ~~AFANASIEV~~, Soviet Vice-Consul from San Francisco, who was also in Long Beach; a Mr. SAZANOV, representing Amtorg in New York City, and EUGENIA AFINOGENOVA of 11976 San Vicente Boulevard, Brentwood, California, whose personal effects were shipped to Russia aboard the UMBA. LEBEDEF served as Agent for AFINOGENOVA in connection with export of her personal effects, and by letter dated May 6, 1948, advised the MOORE-McCORMICK Steamship Company, agents for Soviet vessels, as follows:

"Enclosed herewith please find a duplicate copy of export declaration for baggage of Mrs. ~~AFINOGENOVA~~ to be shipped aboard the SS. CHUKOTKA. Please do not be alarmed by my signature on this declaration as I have received a letter of confidence from Mrs. AFINOGENOVA which was quite sufficient for the Customs. As per advice of yours, I informed Bekins Transfer Company that they will get instructions direct from you as for address of delivery and for the date of the same. Telephone of Bekins Co. is TEXAS 02876."

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

It is to be noted that due to last minute changes by the Soviet authorities, the SS. CHUKOTKA did not call at any American port, and the AFINOGENOVA baggage was shipped out on the SS. UMBA.

It was ascertained from confidential sources that these personal effects consisted of a new radio, washing machine and various electrical appliances, various items of furniture, and some ten or twelve trunks of clothing and personal items. There was also included a library of medical books in which were a number of pro-Russian propaganda pamphlets published in the United States.

Information furnished by [ ] indicated that Mrs. AFINOGENOVA was a close personal friend of CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF and his wife. During the period just prior to the time her baggage was sent out on the UMBA, she was observed at the LEBEDEF home and in company with Mrs. LEBEDEF in downtown Long Beach. She was also in contact

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on several occasions with VICTOR AFANASIEV during his visit to Long Beach.

[redacted] advised further that VICTOR AFANASIEV called at LEBEDEFF's home on June 12, 1948, and advised Mrs. LEBEDEFF that he was very anxious to talk to the subject before he returned to San Francisco. He asked her to have LEBEDEFF contact him. AFANASIEV had previously on June 9, 1948, left word with Mrs. LEBEDEFF to tell her husband that he was staying at the Wilton Hotel in Long Beach in Room 228.

By letter dated May 6, 1948, the San Francisco Office advised that [redacted] had furnished information on April 28, 1948, that VICTOR AFANASIEV had inquired of Mr. SAZONOV of Amtorg, New York City, whether Amtorg had any agreement with MORRIS BACH regarding the supplying of Russian vessels. SAZONOV advised that Amtorg had no such agreement and never had had one. AFANASIEV then stated, "The man who worked with BACH in Long Beach would like to go on his own and supply the ships himself. However, he would like to get a letter from Amtorg stating they have no agreement with BACH. This is necessary since the firms will not deal with him, figuring that BACH has an agreement with Amtorg." SAZONOV stated that Amtorg could not write such a letter but could suggest to the captains of the Soviet vessels that they deal with LEBEDEFF.

AFANASIEV explained to SAZONOV that LEBEDEFF is a good man, and that as long as the ships will probably be undergoing repair in Long Beach, LEBEDEFF would be the man who would be there for twenty-four hours a day. SAZONOV indicated that he would talk over the matter with KOUDIRASHEV.

On June 18, 1948, ~~EARL SAULTER~~, Port Agent, Moore-McCormick, Long Beach, stated that LEBEDEFF was in serious financial circumstances at that time. He had been out of a job since MORRIS BACH closed his office at Long Beach in March 1948, with exception of the temporary employment at the Long Beach Marine Ship Repair. LEBEDEFF had sought the aid of SAULTER in finding employment. He gave SAULTER the impression that he was "mad" at BACH, claiming that BACH had not given him a fair deal. LEBEDEFF feels that he should handle the servicing of the Soviet vessels in this port and receive the 10% commission which BACH makes out of the deal. However, both BACH and Amtorg representatives are in frequent contact with LEBEDEFF whenever they are in the area and he continues to kowtow to them and give them every assistance during their visit. He appears to be the local contact man and the go-between whenever they are in the area. Frequently he is the one to make the hotel reservations, and drives them

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around the area in his personally-owned car.

SAULTER stated that he recently asked LEBEDEFER why he continues to "fool with the Russians." LEBEDEFER replied that it gave him an opportunity to pick up a little money when their ships were in port, and that he had to get money somehow to take care of his family. SAULTER, who has been closely associated with LEBEDEFER in the past several years in connection with the handling of Russian vessels, described LEBEDEFER as a very intelligent individual. He speaks several languages and is a hard and conscientious worker. SAULTER, however, was unprepared to vouch for LEBEDEFER's loyalty to the United States, although it is his personal opinion that LEBEDEFER could be swayed either way depending on the circumstances.

As a sidelight to LEBEDEFER's alleged financial difficulties, [ ] advised that on June 3, 1948, LEBEDEFER asked his wife to try to borrow \$5 from TAMARA, their daughter, who was visiting at their home on that day. He also instructed his wife to call the landlord and tell him that he would try to bring him the rent the following day.

Mr. FRANK MARCY, one of the partners and operators of the Long Beach Marine Repair (Shipyards), advised that his company paid LEBEDEFER \$400 for his services during the visit of the Russian vessels.

Mr. GILLESPIE, Vice-President of the Security First National Bank located at First and Pine, Long Beach, California, made available records which reflected that CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFER maintains a joint savings account at that bank with ALEXANDRA LEBEDEFER, his wife. Activities during the past year have been limited. The first activity was on May 3, 1948, when a withdrawal of \$40 left only \$24.69 in the account. Activity since that date is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Balance</u>
6/14/48		\$ 165.80	\$ 190.49
6/15/48		300.00	490.49
6/21/48	\$ 90.00		400.49
6/24/48	90.00		310.49
7/13/48	100.00		210.49
7/26/48	49.00		161.49

In connection with the two deposits, it was ascertained that the deposit of \$300.00 on June 15, 1948, was part of a check in amount

LA 100-23834

of \$400.00, issued against the account of the Long Beach Marine Repair. The check was cashed and \$300.00 of the amount was deposited.

The bank records reflect that the deposit of \$165.80 was in the form of a personal check drawn against the Bank of America, California and Montgomery Streets, San Francisco, California. The bank was unable to advise the identity of the account.

[redacted] advised that on July 21, 1948, LEBEDEFF received a letter from MORRIS BACH in which he mentioned that LEBEDEFF had not acknowledged receipt of the expense check which BACH had mailed him several weeks previously. It is believed that this deposit of \$165.80 may have been the BACH check.

On June 30, 1948, EARL SAULTER advised that LEBEDEFF secured a job as a salesman for the Atwell Supply Company with offices at 716 East Anaheim, Wilmington, California. LEBEDEFF told SAULTER he was on a salary and commission. SAULTER explained that this is a small branch office recently opened by the Atwell Supply Company, which has headquarters in San Diego, California.

On July 20, 1948, [redacted] advised that ROBERT GEDDIS of the Bendix Aviation Corporation was in contact with LEBEDEFF in connection with a deal in which LEBEDEFF would sell the marine depth recorders being manufactured by the Bendix Corporation. Mr. GEDDIS' office telephone number was furnished as Stanley 72651, and his home telephone as State 48042.

On July 29, 1948, FRANK MERCY of the Long Beach Marine Repair, advised that LEBEDEFF had been in touch with him the previous day, and that he was working on a deal to secure the exclusive agency for the Bendix marine depth recorder for the Los Angeles harbor area. He had explained to MERCY that it would cost approximately \$5000 to start a business to handle the machine. LEBEDEFF has been extremely active during the past few weeks contacting potential customers among the boat operators, and at that time he had two fishing boat operators lined up to buy the instrument. MERCY said that the instruments would sell for approximately \$2400 each, and there would be an additional installation fee. LEBEDEFF indicated that it was his plan to have the Long Beach Marine Repair handle the installation in return for the privilege of using their warehouse facilities for storing the instrument.

EARL SAULTER advised on July 30, 1948, that LEBEDEFF told him that he plans to obtain a dealer's license and open up an office in the harbor area. He will terminate his connections with the Atwell Company, which SAULTER said apparently had not proved to be very profitable to him. In addition to handling the Bendix Marine depth recorder, he plans to handle orders for various other types of small boat equipment, directing his business through established dealers in the area on a commission basis.

The results of mail cover placed on the subject at his address, 220-A Ximono, Long Beach, on May 5, 1948, is as follows:

It was noted that LEBEDEFF receives "The New Republic", "The Russian Voice Daily" and literature from the American-Russian Institute, 6618 1/2 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, California, as well as the "Information Bulletin" issued by the USSR Embassy at Washington, D. C. Other mail received, believed possibly to be pertinent to the investigation, is as follows:

May 11, 1948	Letter from the Davis Motor Car Company 8055 Woodley Avenue Van Nuys, California
May 25, 1948	Letter from the U. S. Government Printing Office, Division of Public Documents Washington, D. C.
May 25, 1948	Cards from the American-Russian Institute, Hollywood, California
June 1, 1948	Letter addressed to Mrs. BETTY <del>DEBLANC</del> from Dr. ROLAND <del>M. ADAMS</del> 195 Pomona, Long Beach, California
June 3, 1948	Letter from the San Francisco Ships Supply San Francisco, California
June 4, 1948	Letter with return address of Z. <del>WILLEY</del> , Room 826, Belmont-Plaza, Lexington & 49th Streets, New York City
June 14, 1948	Letter with return address of Z. WILLEY, Hotel Belmont Plaza, Lexington & 49th Streets, New York City

June 29, 1948 2 return registered mail receipts; one postmarked San Francisco and signed MORRIS BACH; the second postmarked San Francisco and signed EFREMOV by LEDOROV.

June 30, 1948 Air mail letter from San Francisco Ships Supply Company, San Francisco, California.

July 1, 1948 Registered letter from the Consulate General, USSR., San Francisco, California

Letter for Mrs. BETTY DeBLANC from Dr. ROLAND M. ADAMS, 193 Pomona, Long Beach, California

Letter from the Metal Marine Pilot, 342 Golden Gate Avenue, Tacoma, Washington

Registered letter return receipt, postmarked Tacoma, Washington, signed WOOD ~~FREEHAN~~ by ~~NELSON~~ ~~FEGER~~.

July 3, 1948 Letter from San Francisco Ships Supply Company, San Francisco, California.

Letter from the Underwood Corporation, No. 1 Park Avenue, New York City.

July 6, 1948 Letter returned for postage addressed to V. ~~N.~~ KUDRISHOV, Amtorg Trading Corporation, 210 Madison Avenue, New York City.

July 19, 1948 Letter for Mrs. SHURA LEBEDEFF from ~~A.~~ LEBEDEFF, 601 S. Clementine, Oceanside, California

July 21, 1948 Letter from MORRIS BACH, San Francisco, California

July 28, 1948 Driver's license for RICHARD CONSTANT LEBEDEFF from Division of Motor Vehicles, Sacramento, California

August 4, 1948 Letter to Mrs. ~~SHURA~~ LEBEDEFF from A. LEBEDEFF, 601 South Clementine, Oceanside, California



It was ascertained from Mr. J. J. COONEY, inspector, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Terminal Island, California, that LEBEDEF had assisted a Russian seaman, ~~GENADY BABENKO~~, in having his Russian passport renewed. BABENKO had been referred to LEBEDEF by Mr. MARKS of the Registry Section, U. S. Customs, San Pedro, California, who called at that office on June 24, 1948. LEBEDEF took up the man's passport and forwarded it to the Consul in San Francisco.

According to Inspector WILLIAMS of the Immigration & Naturalization Service, who interviewed BABENKO, he had not previously known LEBEDEF. ~~BABENKO~~, it is noted, was living at 350 Seaport Drive with FRANK and BERT ~~FRANNEY~~. BABENKO recently came to San Pedro from New York City, where he had embarked as a crew member from a Norwegian vessel. It was learned from Inspector COONEY that after the return of his passport he shipped out of San Francisco as crew member aboard another Norwegian vessel.

- P E N D I N G -

L E A D STHE NEW YORK OFFICEAT NEW YORK CITY

Will attempt to identify and secure copies of anti-Soviet cartoons drawn by LEBEDEFF and published in "The Whip," a Russian language magazine. This lead was previously set out by letter dated July 9, 1948.

Will attempt to identify Z. WILLEY, Room 826, Belmont Plaza Hotel, New York City, whose name appeared as return address on letters addressed to the subject on June 4 and June 14, 1948.

THE SAN FRANCISCO OFFICEAT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Will attempt to locate the Selective Service records on subject and review them for pertinent information concerning his background and the background of his wife and dependents.

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Will reinterview [ ] for more detailed information concerning his identification of LEBEDEFF as a Soviet agent. Will ascertain from this informant whether he has ever personally known LEBEDEFF and, if so, exhibit pictures of the subject to him for positive identification. It is desired to ascertain definitely on what basis this informant was able to name CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, presently residing Long Beach, California, as a Soviet espionage agent installed by SEMENOV.

Will attempt to identify from the records of the Bank of America branch, California and Montgomery Streets, the account on which a check in the amount of \$165.80 was drawn, which was subsequently deposited to the account of the subject at the Security First National Bank, Long Beach, California, on June 14, 1948. It was suggested by officials of the Security First National Bank at Long Beach that this check would have been returned to the San Francisco bank on or about June 16, 1948, and that there is a possibility of identifying the account by checking the bank's clearances on or about that date, in view of the odd amount of the check. It is noted that the check was most likely drawn against an account of MORRIS BACH of the San Francisco Ships Supply Company.

L E A D S (continued)

THE SAN DIEGO OFFICE

AT OCEANSIDE, CALIFORNIA

Will attempt to develop the identity of A. LEBEDEFF, 601 South Clementine, Oceanside, whose name appeared as a return address for letters directed to Mrs. SHURA LEBEDEFF on July 19 and August 4, 1948.

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Will attempt to develop the identity of BETTY DeBLANC, who received mail at LEBEDEFF's address from Dr. ROLAND M. ADAMS, 193 Pomona, Long Beach.

Will report results of interview with informants and results of mail covers on subject's address.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9/24/48

FROM : SAC, New York

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, wa.  
Costia Valdemar Lebedeff;  
MRS. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, nee  
Alexandria Shermett, Alexandria Shura  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reference is made to the Los Angeles letter to New York dated June 10, 1948 wherein it was noted that CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF reportedly served in 1937 as a cartoonist for a Russian Language publication known as the "Whip". The Russian equivalent of this title is "Beech" or "Bich". This publication was anti-Soviet and LEBEDEFF'S cartoons reportedly were directed against the Soviets. LEBEDEFF is presently a Soviet Espionage Agent in the Los Angeles, California area according to [redacted]

The Los Angeles Office requested this office to review copies of the "Whip" at the New York Public Library in an effort to obtain copies of any cartoons appearing in that publication which had been drawn by this subject.

Copies of the "Whip" published between January, 1936 and July, 1937 were located at New York Public Library and no reference to LEBEDEFF could be found in these issues.

In accordance with Los Angeles request an effort was made to locate V.M. ILLUN, Editor of the "Whip". It was ascertained that this publication which formerly occupied space at 267 East 10th Street, New York, New York, is no longer in existence. ILLUN sold his printing presses to KUZMA P. SHEVCHENKO.

SHEVCHENKO, who was contacted under pretext, advised that VLADIMIR M. ILLUN until recently resided in care of C. S. ELF, Englishtown, N.J. where he operated a soft drink business. According to SHEVCHENKO, ILLUN probably left New Jersey for Bridgeport or Hartford, Conn. SHEVCHENKO indicated that the source of his information was ROOVA, the Russian Organization for Mutual Help which is reportedly anti-Soviet in character and which maintains the farm to which SAMARIN and Mrs. KASENKINA recently fled when endeavoring to escape from the Soviet Consulate in New York. SHEVCHENKO also stated that ILLUN has always been anti-Bolshevik as well as anti-Semitic and for the latter reason was forced out of his business in New York.

The indices of this office contain no references to ILLUN.

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100-90981

SE/32

100-348497-30  
F B I

RECORDED - 125  
INDEXED - 125

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62 NOV 22 1948  
DocId: 70099505 Page 84

Letter to Director, FBI  
NY 100-90981

The Newark Office is requested to ascertain the present address of ILLUN through reliable sources in Englishtown, New Jersey.

The Los Angeles Office has requested that ILLUN be interviewed in an effort to obtain copies of LEBEDEFF'S anti-Soviet cartoons if it can be determined that ILLUN is sufficiently trustworthy to be approached. Los Angeles is origin in this matter. RUC.

cc: Newark  
Los Angeles  
New Haven  
San Francisco

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New Haven

DATE: 9-30-48

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF, wa  
 Costia Valdemar Lebedeff;  
 Mrs. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEF, nee  
 Alexandria Shermett, Alexandria Shura  
INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

Re New York letter to Bureau dated 9-24-48 in which certain information concerning certain cartoons drawn by the subject was set forth. Likewise, reference was made in referenced letter to a V. M. ILLUN, editor of the "Whip", and the Newark Office was requested to ascertain the present address of ILLUN through reliable sources in Englishtown, New Jersey so that ILLUN might be interviewed in an effort to obtain copies of LEBEDEF's anti-Soviet cartoons, if it could be determined that ILLUN is sufficiently trustworthy to be approached.

It is believed that ILLUN's name as reflected in New York letter of reference is incorrectly spelled, and that the person in question was VLADIMIR M. ILLYN. A review of the New Haven Office indices reflects that considerable investigation was conducted concerning VLADIMIR M. ILLYN under the character, "Internal Security (G), Custodial Detention". It appears that the following are the office file numbers in this case:

Bureau File # 100-102829  
 New York File # 100-29669  
 San Francisco File # 65-137  
 Newark File # 100-11699  
 Los Angeles apparently has not  
 had previous information in this case.

A review of the New Haven Office file of VLADIMIR M. ILLYN reflects that said ILLYN is identical with the ILLUN mentioned in New York letter of reference to the Bureau. A review of this file further reflects that Newark is in possession of all pertinent serials with the exception of the following which are being forwarded to that office with a copy of this letter:

A report of SA JOSEPH ISEMAN dated 5-15-43 at New York.  
 A report of SA STANLEY S. CHMIEL dated 8-12-43 at New Haven.

ILLYN was employed in the Blueprint Department of the Vought-Sikorsky Division of United Aircraft, Stratford, Conn. ILLYN was employed until

SE 39

RECORDED - 125  
 INDEXED - 125

100-348497-31

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5 OCT 4 194817  
62 NOV 22 1948

Director, FBI

-2-

September 30, 1948

1942, and he resided at 21 Roberts Street, Devon, Conn., with his son, ANATOLE ILLYN. He was interviewed in the New Haven Office in the latter part of 1942. This interview was reflected in the report of S. A. STANLEY S. CHMIEL made at New Haven 1-6-43, entitled, "VLADIMIR M. ILLYN, Internal Security (C), Custodial Detention".

It will likewise be noted that investigation in the New Haven Office reflected that a large number of items were obtained from ILLYN in connection with a legal search made. All of these materials were returned to him at his request on 12-19-45, while he was residing at 21 Roberts Street, Devon, Conn. Included among these were twelve unidentified cartoons which could conceivably be the cartoons in which Los Angeles Office was interested.

For the information of the Newark Office, a pretext call made to VLADIMIR M. ILLYN's son, ANATOLE ILLYN who is now residing at Orange Ave., Milford, Conn., Milford telephone number 40229, was made and it was ascertained that his father is presently residing at Box 207, RFD-1, Englishtown, New Jersey, New Jersey telephone number 3731.

It will be noted that subject LEBEDEF'F's wife is also known as ALEXANDRIA SHURA as reflected in the caption of this letter. A check of the New Haven Office indices against the name of LEBEDEF'F and his wife was made with negative results.

There being no additional investigation in this matter, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

JFS:NK  
100-new  
cc:  
New York 100-29669  
San Francisco 65-137  
Newark 100-11699 (encls.)  
Los Angeles

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **100-6938**

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN DIEGO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10-29-48</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10-22-48</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANKLIN E. WRIGHT</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>LL</b></span>
TITLE <b>CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF, was, Costia Valdemar Lebedeff, Richard Constant Lebedeff; Mrs. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEF, nee Alexandra Shermett</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

A. LEBEDEF employed as sheet metal worker, Oceanside, Calif., and known as metal heating expert. Lives with mother and sister. Came to Oceanside in 1937 or 1938 from Mexico. No indication of subversive tendencies or disloyalty.

*Handwritten:* 7-15

R. U. C.

**G. I. R. -3**

**REFERENCE:**

Report of SA GEORGE J. NAGEL, dated 9-16-48, at Los Angeles.

**DETAILS:**

**AT OCEANSIDE, CALIFORNIA**

**COPIES DESTROYED**

**R 132 AUG 16 1962**

The name of A. LEBEDEF appeared as a return address for letters directed to Mrs. SHURA LEBEDEF, Los Angeles, California, on July 19 and August 4, 1948.

Chief of Police GUY WOODWARD, (NA), Oceanside, advised that he has personally known A. LEBEDEF, who resides at 601 So. Clementine Street, Oceanside, for many years. He stated that LEBEDEF came to Oceanside in 1937 or 1938 from Mexico. He recalls that there was some small difficulty at the time of his entrance into this country when LEBEDEF attempted to bring in a sporting rifle or shotgun from Mexico.

LEBEDEF is known in the sheet metal trade as an expert

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau 2 - Los Angeles 2 - San Diego <b>COPY IN FILE</b>		<b>100-348497-32</b> <b>F B I</b> <b>3 NOV 2 1948</b>	<b>RECORDED - 102</b> <b>INDEXED - 102</b> <i>[Handwritten: 6/138]</i>
		SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR <b>ADD. DISSEMINATION.</b>	

**60 NOV 22 1948**



SD 100-6938

in heating metal. His reputation in this respect, however, is confined to the local industry in Oceanside.

For several years LEBEDEFF worked for a Mrs. CRUTCHER, who is presently a secretary for the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce, and who formerly conducted a sheet metal business.

Chief WOODWARD took opportunity to discreetly discuss LEBEDEFF with Mrs. CRUTCHER, who told him that LEBEDEFF was an excellent worker, honest, and there was no reason whatsoever to doubt his loyalty, and there was no indication of any subversive tendencies on his part.

LEBEDEFF is now employed by Oceanside Heating and Sheet Metal Works, Tremont and Minnesota Streets, Oceanside, California. The proprietor of this concern, BEN WOLF, also known as a skilled metal heater, was called to Washington, D.C., during the war because of his knowledge of metal heating. WOLF is reported to be a Russian Jew, and LEBEDEFF is known as a Russian.

At the Merchants Credit Association, Oceanside, records reflected that LEBEDEFF'S rating was "satisfactory". His credit record did not contain any pertinent background information.

LEBEDEFF is described by Chief WOODWARD as follows:

Build	short and stocky
Complexion	dark
Peculiarities	eye glasses, thick lens
Hair	dark, worn short
Eyes	dark
Occupation	tinsmith and metal worker

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

SAC - Los Angeles

November 29, 1948

Director - FBI

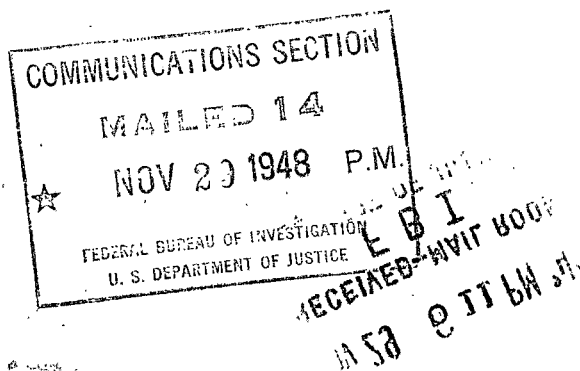
**CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was, et al**  
**INTERNAL SECURITY - R**

Reference is made to your memorandum dated November 1, 1948, requesting authority to interview Lebedeff. You are authorized to conduct such an interview, which should thoroughly cover the allegations made by [redacted] and should also cover the other aspects of the investigation in this case.

However, since the San Francisco Office was not furnished a copy of the reference letter and that Office is the office of origin in the Artemoff case, this matter is being called to their attention to determine if they have any suggestions or objections to an interview with Lebedeff inasmuch as such an interview may have a direct bearing on the other aspects of the Artemoff investigation. Any suggestions or objections of the San Francisco Office should be immediately furnished to the Bureau and the Los Angeles Office.

cc - San Francisco

RJL:mpd



Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. H. B. Fletcher

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DATE: November 29, 1948

FROM : L. Whitson

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

In the attached letter from the Los Angeles Office, there is a request for authority to interview the above subject. The current aspects of this investigation are based upon information which was received from Confidential Informant [redacted], who has advised that one Lebedeff is definitely working for the espionage parallel with which Olga Artemoff is identified. According to [redacted] Lebedeff was installed as one of the agents in this network by Semen Semenov and later worked under one Peter Gavrilov. [redacted] further stated that Miss Artemoff had worked as an intermediary between Lebedeff and Gavrilov.

Constantine Vladimirovich Lebedeff was born December 31, 1904, at Poltow, Russia. He immigrated to the United States from Manila, Philippine Islands, arriving at San Francisco, on July 1, 1923. He was naturalized on September 3, 1929. Lebedeff was employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission at Long Beach, California, during January, 1944. His services were terminated on October 15, 1945, but he was re-employed during the period from April, 1946, to January, 1947. His duties included the ordering of supplies and repairs for the Russian ships and assisting the ship's captains in the handling of papers with the Customs and the Immigration and Naturalization Services.

In January of 1947, the SGPC closed its office at Long Beach, California. At that time Lebedeff opened an office at Room 315 Heartwell Building in Long Beach as an employee of the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company. This company is owned by Morris Bach who has for several years handled a great deal of business for the Amtorg Trading Corporation and the SGPC. Since January, 1947, Lebedeff has acted in his old capacity handling matters pertaining to the Russian vessels which arrived at Long Beach. He has stated that he is a representative of Amtorg and has acted as their agent. It is believed, however, that actually he is paid by the San Francisco Shipping Supply Company or Morris Bach.

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RECORDED - 128

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The current investigation of this case has reflected that Lebedeff has been extremely dissatisfied with the treatment he has received from Soviet representatives lately. An informant also recently asked him why he did not go to the FBI and perhaps that organization might be able to use his services, particularly because of his present financial difficulties. Lebedeff stated that he had not done so because he "just didn't want to get mixed up in it."

FIVE

912

In view of the above facts and the difficulty we are having in making any headway in the Artemoff investigation, it is felt that we should thoroughly interview Lebedeff at this time.

RECOMMENDATION:

There is attached for your approval a letter to the Los Angeles Office authorizing them to thoroughly interview Lebedeff.

A copy of the letter authorizing the interview is also being sent to San Francisco as they are office of origin in the Artemoff investigation.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

R.B.H. 800  
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: November 1, 1948

ml  
7  
SUBJECT: RE: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, WAS. ET AL.,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Current investigation of this case indicates that subject is devoting his entire time to his job of selling marine supplies to fishing vessels in the Los Angeles Harbor Area. He has contacts with three supply houses and works strictly on a commission basis.

LEBEDEFF is presently in a desperate financial condition. Sales have been very slow and he is having difficulty making ends meet.

1 According to informants, LEBEDEFF was extremely dissatisfied with the treatment he received from the Soviet representatives during the last visit of Soviet vessels to this port. V. B. VON SONN, a half-brother and informant in this case, reports that a mutual friend recently told him that LEBEDEFF appears to be swinging back to his former anti-Soviet attitude. DAVE MAXWELL, one of the operators of the Long Beach Marine Repairs, who has been personally acquainted with the subject for the past five years, stated that during a recent conversation with LEBEDEFF, he asked him if he ever heard from any of his former Russian associates who have returned to the Soviet. LEBEDEFF replied that he did not and that he did not wish to receive any letters from Russia as they might "reflect" on him. MAXWELL explained that he then asked LEBEDEFF why he did not go to the F.B.I., that perhaps that organization might be able to use his services. The subject replied that he had not done it because he "just didn't want to get mixed up in it".

In commenting on this conversation, MAXWELL expressed the opinion that LEBEDEFF is an "opportunist", that this swing over to the pro-Soviet sympathies was a direct result of the fact that he saw an opportunity to obtain employment from them and as a matter of fact, he did obtain one of the few real jobs he has ever had and it was to his advantage to make the most of it at the time.

LEBEDEFF's association with the Soviets is widely known throughout the whole Harbor area. He has never attempted to make a secret of it. It is known that when he first went to work for the Soviets, he was extremely disturbed that his new associates might learn of his

RECORDED - 95

INDEXED - 95

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LA 100-23834

violently anti-Soviet attitude prior to 1941 as evidenced by the cartoons which he drew for the anti-Soviet publication, "The Whip". This office has secured copies of some of these cartoons, one of which depicts a bloody noose with cut lines to the effect that this is waiting for STALIN.

Whether the Soviet representatives are aware of these cartoons is not known, but it is apparent that LEBEDEFER realizes the significance if they should fall into their hands as exhibited by the fact that he went to some lengths to obtain any of the copies that might still be in existence and remove them.

In the past, LEBEDEFER has worked for the San Francisco Ship Supplies operated by one MORRIS BACH, which for the past five years has had the contract to supply all vessels calling at this port coal, foodstuffs and other items, for which the company receives 10% commission. LEBEDEFER has felt that BACH did not pay him in relation to his efforts in this regard and during the last visit of the Soviet vessels, BACH and LEBEDEFER had a falling out. As a result, LEBEDEFER took the matter up directly with AMTORG at New York City and claims now to have received authorization to handle the supplying of the Soviet Vessels at this port personally and receive the whole commission.

However, no Soviet vessels have put into this port since that time, and according to Moore-McCormack Steamship Company Agents, no additional vessels are expected to come here in the foreseeable future. A group of four sailing vessels accompanied by a mother ship was reported to be en route due to arrive here in August, 1948. These vessels never arrived and it is believed by the steamship company agents that the Russians have re-routed the vessels, cutting out the Pacific Coast entirely. In the past, these vessels have traveled through the Panama Canal from England, called at the Port for repairs and supplies and then proceeded to Siberia to be used in the fishing fleet. It is believed that the vessels are now going through the Indian Ocean and avoiding any Port under American authority.

A review of the file in this case reflects that the only actual evidence that this subject was engaged in espionage activities for the Soviet was contained in the statement of [redacted] who, according to San Francisco letter to the Bureau dated May 27, 1948, advised on May 3, 1948 that one LEBEDEFER, was definitely working on the espionage parallel with which OLGA ARTEMOFF is identified. At that time, this LEBEDEFER's first name was reported by the informant to be "IVAN". However, [redacted] later indicated that it is probably CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFER, subject of this case. The informant has so far failed to further verify

LA 100-23834

this identification.

In view of LEBEDEFF's present circumstances and attitude, it is now requested that the Bureau give further consideration to authorizing that he be interviewed.

It is believed that as a result of his past association with Soviet representatives, that he may be able to furnish valuable information in connection with these individuals who from time to time were active in this area.

GJN:RNK  
100-23834

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 10, 1948

FROM : SAC, Newark

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, WA  
 Costia Valdemar Lebedeff;  
 MRS. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, Ne  
 Alexandria Shermett, Alexandria Shura  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
 Bureau file #100-102829

Rerep STANLEY S. CHMIEL dated August 12, 1943 at New Haven.

Re New York letter to the Bureau dated September 24, 1948 and New Haven letter to the Bureau dated September 30, 1948.

On November 2, 1948 VLADIMAR M. ILLYN, care of C. S. ELFF, Service Station, Route #4, Englishtown, New Jersey, employed as an elevator operator, 501 West 56th Street, New York, and rooming at 25 East 99th Street, corner of Madison Avenue, New York, telephone Atwater 9-9755, was interviewed by SAs MICHAEL J. CONNOLLY and WILLIAM H. MC LAUGHLIN, at which time he furnished the following information.

He recalled that the subject has submitted several cartoons for his magazine "The Whip" sometime around 1938 or 1940. All of these cartoons were sent to him by ALEXANDER VOLOSHIN (former Russian actor, Los Angeles, California).

He said he had no direct contact with LEBEDEFF and that he received no money for the cartoons which he submitted. During this time VOLOSHIN was contributing articles to the magazine and was also selling the magazine on the West Coast. He said he had no idea where the cartoons were located at the present time and he believed they were probably lost when he moved from Connecticut to New Jersey. He thought LEBEDEFF used to sign his cartoons as "KATIK" (Little Cat). ILLYN said he would attempt to locate the cartoons and in the event he found them, he would furnish them to the Newark Office.

He said he could recall nothing concerning the type of cartoons which LEBEDEFF drew for the magazine other than the fact that he knew they were anti-Communist. He was unable to furnish the present whereabouts of VOLOSHIN but thought he was probably residing somewhere around Los Angeles.

As was set forth in referenced letter from New Haven to the Bureau dated September 30, 1948, ILLYN was the subject of New Haven file entitled "VLADIMIR M. ILLYN - SECURITY MATTER (C); CUSTODIAL DETENTION". RUC.

WHM:mac

100-32390

cc: Los Angeles  
 New York (Info.)  
 (100-29669)

New Haven (Info.)  
 San Francisco (Info.) (65-137)  
 Newark file 100-1699

RECORDED - 141  
 INDEXED - 141

100-348497-34  
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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 23, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was:  
 ① Costia Valdemar Lebedeff; Richard Constant  
 Lebedeff; ②

MRS. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, nee  
 Alexandra Shermett, Alexandria Shura  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Re report of SA GEORGE J. NAGEL dated 9/16/48 at Los Angeles, California and New York letter to the Bureau dated 9/24/48 copies of which were designated for Los Angeles.

MR. J. C. LEWIS, Credit Manager of the Hotel Belmont Plaza, 49th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York, New York, examined the records of that Hotel and furnished the following information on 11/17/48.

MISS ZOYA WILLEY registered at the Belmont Plaza on 5/15/48 and occupied room 826 until June 18, 1948. WILLEY indicated that she was employed by G. HOWARD HODGE, Hatter of 1 West 39th Street, New York, New York. No other information was available at the Hotel.

MISS ZOYA WILLEY was contacted under pretext and advised she is an American citizen, single and resides at 673 Locust Street, Fleetwood, New York, telephone Mount Vernon 8-3919. MISS WILLEY is Millinery Designer and a principal assistant to the President of G. HOWARD HODGE Co., of 1 West 39th Street, New York, New York.

The indices of the New York office fail to reflect any information which may be identified with ZOYA WILLEY.

All other leads in this office having been covered, this matter is referred upon completion to the office of origin.

cc Los Angeles  
 San Francisco

TJM:HJC  
 100-90981

RECORDED - 60

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INDEXED - 60

EX-77

61 DEC 9 1948

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-26961

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 11/19/48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/30; 10/19; 11/10/48	REPORT MADE BY DAVID C. SPENCER yb
TITLE CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF was. et al			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Confidential Informant

recalled.

that OLGA NIKOLAEVNA ARTEMOFF stated LEBEDEFF was recruited by either SEMENOV or GAVRILOV to obtain aircraft information. He also recalled that ARTEMOFF paid LEBEDEFF money but could furnish no details. Information in Selective Service files indicate LEBEDEFF registered at LDB #228, Los Angeles, on 10/16/40. Check for \$165.80 dated 6/14/48 was written on the San Francisco Ship Supply Company and cleared through the Bank of America on 6/16/48.

AGENCY *cc SWS La*REQ. REC'D *5-9550*REP'T FORW. *5-17-51*BY *Seto/WR**no. Ale. ya. LDB #228**Lebedeff (spouse)*

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent GEORGE J. NAGEL at Los Angeles dated 9/16/48

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

G.I.R.-7

COPIES DESTROYED

The informant recalled that Mrs. LEBEDEFF spoke excellent Russian and also perfect English. The informant asked her how she had learned English so quickly and believed her reply was that she was born in the United States and educated in the schools here. Following this

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Harry M. Kimball</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Los Angeles (100-23834) 1 - New York (info.) (100-90981) 1 - San Diego (info.) 2 - San Francisco	100-23834-36	RECORDED - 8 INDEXED - 81
	SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR F B I ADD. DISSEMINATION 6 NOV 29 1948 EX-76	

No dissemination  
at this time

SF # 100-23834

incident, informant learned that the LEBEDEFFS had moved to Los Angeles, and shortly thereafter there was a rumor that LEBEDEFF was working for or with the Russian Consulate at Los Angeles and was also in contact with various labor groups there.

At a later date, which the informant could not fix, he was told by [ ] that LEBEDEFF should not be in the United States because he was working with the Russians. In an effort to recall other information concerning LEBEDEFF furnished him by [ ], the informant stated that he believes LEBEDEFF was recruited by one of two Soviet Espionage Agents—SEMEN MARKOVICH SEMENOV or PETR PANKRATEVICH GAVRILOV. It was the informant's recollection that LEBEDEFF was commissioned to obtain information concerning aircraft. He further seemed to recall that [ ] paid some money to LEBEDEFF on one or more occasions.

Upon being shown the photograph of ~~EUGENE ALEXANDER~~ LEBEDEV the informant could make no identification. However, he did identify the photograph of CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF as the individual described above.

Source of information T-1 ascertained that the records of the Bank of America, National Trust and Savings Association, California and Montgomery Streets Branch, include a commercial checking account for the San Francisco Ship Supply Company which is handled by MORRIS BACH. The records indicated that a check in the amount of \$165.80 cleared through this account on June 16, 1948. This undoubtedly was the check dated 6/14/48 which, according to reference report, had been deposited at the Security First National Bank at Long Beach on that date.

#### AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

The following investigation was conducted by Special Employee WADE FULLER:

The State of California Selective Service Records, Sacramento, reflected that CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, 4674 $\frac{1}{2}$  LaMirado Avenue, Los Angeles, registered with Local Draft Board #228, Los Angeles, on October 16, 1940. Subject was born in Poltow, Russia, December 31, 1904. The person that would always know whereabouts was shown to be Miss SHURA SHERMET (wife-to-be), 4674 $\frac{1}{2}$  LaMirado Avenue, Los Angeles, California. Subject's employer was shown to be Sclessinger Cartoon Studios, Fernwood & Van Ness Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

It was further reflected that questionnaire was mailed to subject at above address on April 15, 1941. Social security number was shown to be 569-18-9050. Wife ALEXANDRA K. shown as common law wife for nine years, address not given.

Subject's mother was shown to be ~~EUGENIA ZONN~~, 1501 Ardmore Avenue, Hollywood, California, and brother ~~LEON LEBEDEF~~, address unknown, also of Hollywood, California.

The above information is all that was reflected in Selective Service files re relatives, and nothing revealed in regard to associates.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

S O U R C E

Source T-1 is Mr. W. THORSON, Assistant Chief Clerk  
Bank of America  
National Trust and Savings Association  
California-Montgomery Branch

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
510 South Spring Street, Room 900  
Los Angeles 13, California

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

December 8, 1948

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: <sup>①</sup>CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

A letter of justification was due on December 2, 1948, in connection with the technical surveillance established on the residence of the above subject, [redacted]. This letter of justification was held up pending receipt of authority from the Bureau to interview subject, after which it is intended that this surveillance will be discontinued.

Authority to interview subject was granted by Bureau letter dated November 29, 1948, and it is contemplated that he will be interviewed on December 9, 1948. If the technical surveillance continues to be unproductive for approximately one week after the interview, the surveillance will be discontinued and the Bureau notified.

Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*  
*jr*

R. B. HOOD  
Special Agent in Charge

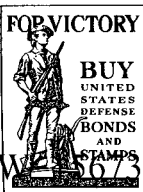
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100-23834-A  
Air Mail

G.I.R.-3

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100-34849-37  
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3 DEC 10 1948

*[Handwritten signature]*



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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : *AR* SAC, San Francisco

DATE: December 16, 1948

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF, was., et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

*7-11-48*

ReBulet Los Angeles dated November 29, 1948.

The San Francisco Office has no objections to interview of LEBEDEF by the Los Angeles Office. It is requested that the results of the interview be made available to the San Francisco Office.

DCS:JMT  
100-26961

cc - Los Angeles

RECORDED - 28

100-348497-38  
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*541*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Los Angeles, 13, California

December 22nd, 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Attn: Security Division  
*①*

Re: CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF  
Internal Security (R)

Dear Sir:

Technical surveillance on the residence of the  
above-named individual at 220A Ximeno Street, Long Beach, Cali-  
fornia, telephone Long Beach 8-7493, discontinued at 6:00 p.m.  
December 20th, 1948, inasmuch as the same has been unproductive.

*G. I. R. - 3*

*[Redacted]*  
~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~  
Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*  
*for*

R. B. HOOD,  
SAC

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

ICS:vcd  
100-23834

AIRMAIL

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EX-47

*100-348497-39*  
**F B I**  
12 JAN 4 1949





# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-23834

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES, CALIF.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1/7/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/11-13, 17, 19, 20, 23-25, 27, 31; 9/1-3, 7-9, 13, 16, 17, 21-24, 28-30;</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>GEORGE J. NAGEL jmm</b>
TITLE <b>CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was; Costia Valde-mar Lebedeff, Richard Constant Lebedeff; Mrs. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEFF, nee Alexandra Shermett</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY-R</b>	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  <p>Background of subject as furnished by his half brother set out. LEBEDEFF interviewed at Long Beach, California on December 9, 1948 at which time he furnished details concerning his association with Amtorg since March, 1944. Subject denied that he has ever met a SEMEN MARKOVICH SEMENOV. He identified PETER PANKRATEVICH GAVRILOV from photograph as Amtorg Representative at Portland or Seattle who contacted A. P. GRACHEV, head of the Office at Long Beach, on occasions. LEBEDEFF denied that he had any personal dealings with GAVRILOV. LEBEDEFF was unable to identify any woman connected with GAVRILOV or other Soviet Officials who might be identical with OLGA ARTEMOFF. LEBEDEFF denied that he was ever approached by any person requesting that he obtain any information outside of the scope of his regular duties. He volunteered his opinion that the Soviet representatives never trusted him and that he was never taken into their confidence. Personal background of subject and his wife set out.</p>			
<p><b>COPIES DESTROYED</b></p> <p><b>AUG 16 1962</b></p> <p><b>REFERENCES:</b> Bureau file 100-348479 Report of Special Agent GEORGE J. NAGEL dated 9/16/48 at Los Angeles. Bureau letter dated November 29, 1948.</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b> DAVE MAXWELL, one of the partners in the Long Beach Marine Repair</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  <b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> 1 - Bureau 1 - San Francisco (100-26961-Info.) 3 - Los Angeles		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  <b>348497-40</b> <b>RECORDED - 138</b> <b>INDEXED - 138</b> <b>EX-25</b> <b>SEE REVERSE SIDE</b> <b>ADD. DISSEMINATION</b>	

*This time - R/L 3/3/49.*

Company, Long Beach, California, advised on August 23, 1948 that LEBEDEF was devoting his entire time to contacting small vessels and fishing boats in the Los Angeles harbor area attempting to sell them marine supplies, paint and marine instruments. His principal items are the Bendix Marine Recorder, which he handles directly with the Pacific Division, Bendix Aviation Corporation, North Hollywood, California; an automatic steering device which he handles through the Atwell Supply Company and paints which he handles through the American Marine Paint Company of Wilmington, California. LEBEDEF was not doing too well financially, having sold only one automatic steering device and a small quantity of paint. LEBEDEF told MAXWELL that he has successfully worked out an agreement with AMTORG at New York, to personally handle the servicing of Soviet vessels calling at this port. This will be on a commission basis - generally 10% - and will not be handled through MORRIS BACH, San Francisco Ship Supplier as it has in the past.

On August 20, 1948 LEBEDEF was observed calling on various fishing vessels tied up to docks on Terminal Island.

Mr. V. B. ~~VON SONN~~, half-brother of subject LEBEDEF, was interviewed at his office in the Douglas Aircraft Corporation, Santa Monica, California, on September 7, 1948 and furnished the following information:

On September 5, 1948 VON SONN and his wife visited subject at his home in Long Beach for the purpose of talking with him and attempting to ascertain his present sentiments. LEBEDEF and VON SONN had not seen each other for several months and when the VON SONNS first arrived LEBEDEF appeared to be extremely cautious in his conversation, however, during the evening he did warm up slightly. VON SONN stated at that time that he had the impression that LEBEDEF continued to feel kindly toward the Soviet and during the evening played a number of recordings of the new Soviet music for which he expressed great admiration. He explained that his brother had obtained these records from the Personnel of the Soviet vessels that have called at this port.

VON SONN brought up the subject of the Russian school teacher jumping from the window of the Soviet Consulate in New York City, and LEBEDEF dismissed the matter with a statement that it was a very unfortunate thing as it resulted in the closing of the Soviet Consulates in the United States. He then changed the subject. VON SONN noted that LEBEDEF had a large quantity of Soviet books and literature in his home. LEBEDEF explained to him that he had been distributing this material to the Russian seamen adding that he planned to get rid of it as "it would not be a good thing to have it around the house."

It was ascertained during the evening that Mrs. LEBEDEF's daughter,

~~LEBEDEFF~~  
TAMRA, has remarried since her divorce from ~~CAMPBELL~~ and her husband is an Air Corps veteran. LEBEDEFF spent most of the evening talking about his work as a salesman. He appeared to be very happy with his present arrangements and indicated that he was making a financial success. He mentioned to VON SONN that he had met an old friend, ~~BORIS BENDER~~, who operates a fishing boat out of this harbor and had offered to work with him as a fisherman. BENDER, however, had not been keen on the idea and did not take LEBEDEFF's offer. VON SONN explained that when LEBEDEFF first came to the Los Angeles area from San Francisco he had met BENDER and they were very close friends but that they had drifted apart after LEBEDEFF took up his pro-Soviet views. VON SONN stated he did not think BENDER agreed with these views and that is probably one reason he was not anxious to renew their association.

It was ascertained during the conversation that LEBEDEFF had met ~~IGOR REVERDITTO~~ and his wife in Long Beach. Since that time, however, the REVERDITTOs have separated. Mrs. LEBEDEFF told of running into Mrs. REVERDITTO at the grocery store and that Mrs. REVERDITTO had some very bitter remarks to make about the Russians in general. This did not set well with Mrs. LEBEDEFF.

It was also ascertained that LEBEDEFF has been in contact with ~~GOURY POLONSKY~~ and they were still on friendly terms.

On leaving, VON SONN explained that he asked LEBEDEFF if he were still planning to return to Russia and LEBEDEFF replied, "No, not under the present circumstances."

At the time VON SONN stated that he had the impression that LEBEDEFF had not changed his views towards the Soviet but that he is being extremely cautious in his statements and actions in view of the present world situation.

VON SONN had been previously interviewed on August 25, 1948 at which time photographic copies of various pages from the May, 1937 issue of the Russian language publication known as "The Whip" were exhibited to him. VON SONN was immediately able to identify cartoons appearing on these pages as being the work of subject, LEBEDEFF. It was noted that one of the cartoons depicted a hangman's noose which captioned in effect, "This was waiting for Stalin". The cartoons were signed "~~KOTNKA~~" or "~~KOCTNKA~~", which VON SONN identified as pen names used by LEBEDEFF.

During this conversation VON SONN was questioned as to reasons that caused LEBEDEFF to change from his Anti-Soviet views as exhibited by these cartoons, to his present pro-Soviet sentiment. VON SONN explained that in 1933 or thereabouts, LEBEDEFF became acquainted with various representatives of the Soviet Government who came to the United States on official missions when the Soviet and the United States became allies against Germany. He was unable

to identify any of these individuals other than one KORAMA ~~RANKO~~ who was, for a time, in the Los Angeles area, representing the Soviet Air Force. LEBEDEF was very close to this man and entertained him on a number of occasions in his own home. This individual, along with other official Soviet representatives, was also entertained at the Soviet Vice Consulate in Los Angeles and through his acquaintance with him, LEBEDEF was invited to attend functions at the Consulate.

VON SONN pointed out that LEBEDEF has never been able to achieve any degree of financial success in the United States; that while he appears to be a man of considerable ability and a hard worker, he has always had a difficult time making ends meet financially. VON SONN sighted this as a possible factor in LEBEDEF's actions. He stated LEBEDEF's employment with the S.G.P.C. was the best job he ever had.

LEBEDEF's brother-in-law, GOURY POLONSKY, who presently lives in Los Angeles and whom VON SONN described as extremely radical in his pro-Soviet sympathies, had some influence in bringing LEBEDEF around to pro-Soviet views. Formerly LEBEDEF and POLONSKY had heated arguments over the subject and at one time they even broke off relations with each other. However, LEBEDEF and POLONSKY are on friendly terms and frequently visit back and forth. VON SONN stated that POLONSKY has always appeared to have a whip hand over LEBEDEF for some unknown reason.

In regard to LEBEDEF's personal background, VON SONN stated that the present Mrs. LEBEDEF is his second wife. Subject was previously married (common law) and has a sixteen year old son by his first wife. The first wife is now remarried to <sup>Mrs.</sup> NICHOLAS SUKANOFF (Phonetic) and she and her son and husband reside at Hayward, California. The son's name is CONSTANTINE V. ~~LEBEDEF~~ but he is known as "RICHARD". LEBEDEF and his first wife have been separated for the past ten years or more and have no contact with each other. The boy RICHARD is believed ~~not~~ acquainted with his real father.

In regard to the present Mrs. LEBEDEF, VON SONN explained that no one seems to know a great deal about her background. She and LEBEDEF have been married for several years, it is the informant's impression; however, they lived together for at least ten years in common law marriage. VON SONN stated he knows that she was with LEBEDEF at the time he was drawing the cartoons for "The Whip". LEBEDEF met her in Hollywood where she was a bit player in the movies. She is or was a talented dancer, specializing in Oriental dances. At the time LEBEDEF met her she was broke and down and out and he took her in. She was previously married and has a daughter and a grand-daughter. Her first husband was named SHERIMETOVA or SHERMETOVA, which she changed to SHERMET. She also uses the name SHURA. It was VON SONN's opinion that she used the name ALEXANDRIA SHERMET or a variation of the name during her work in Hollywood. At one time she was an instructress at a dancing school in Pasadena,

Alexandra

California but she became involved with the operator of the school and LEBEDEFf made her sever her relations with him. Despite the fact that she has been in the United States for a number of years, her English is very poor according to VON SONN. She is actually grey headed but keeps her hair dyed jet black, giving her a youthful appearance. Informant expressed doubt that she is a citizen of the United States. Mrs. LEBEDEFf's daughter, TAMRA, is now in her middle twenties. She was married to PAUL \*CAMPBELL but is now separated from him. CAMPBELL is believed presently to be employed at Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Burbank, California. He lives in the Burbank area and as far as VON SONN knows, he does not possess pro-Soviet views. There was one product of this marriage, a daughter named DONNA who presently resides with the LEBEDEFfs in Long Beach. In regard to TAMRA, VON SONN described her as a very shallow individual who, from her very nature, would have no interest in politics.

MRS. PAUL CAMPBELL

LEBEDEFf served in the United States Army Air Corps the informant explained. He was drafted into the service in 1942 but received a medical discharge after about six months. According to VON SONN, LEBEDEFf exhibited no objections to the Armed Service. It was shortly after he was discharged from the Army that he began to take interest in pro-Russian affairs and became acquainted with Russian officials. LEBEDEFf had also served as an officer in the Imperial Russian Army and Navy before coming to the United States. Even as a small boy in Russia, LEBEDEFf ran away from home and joined the Army and in (1943 or 1944) VON SONN stated, LEBEDEFf went so far as to purchase clothing, which, with the exception of brass buttons, resembled a uniform. LEBEDEFf was confident that when he arrived in the Soviet, he would immediately be given a high position in the military service.

VON SONN was unable to identify any of LEBEDEFf's Consul associates. Since LEBEDEFf became affiliated with the Pro-Soviet group, his family ties have been strained and he has more or less withdrawn from the white Russian colony in Los Angeles. His association with Soviet representatives, VON SONN explained, is well known among the local Russian element.

VON SONN was again interviewed on October 13, 1948 and he advised that he had no further contact with LEBEDEFf since the last visit to Long Beach. However, he has had occasion to talk to BORIS BENDER and BENDER expressed the opinion that LEBEDEFf was swinging around again to his former anti-Soviet sympathies.

DAVE MAXWELL of the Long Beach Marine Repairs, Long Beach, California, was again interviewed on October 14, 1948. He advised that LEBEDEFf was devoting his entire time to attempting to sell Marine supplies to small fishing boats in the Los Angeles harbor area. He was working on a commission basis and was receiving very little income for his efforts. MAXWELL stated that on several occasions he asked LEBEDEFf to contact AMTORG at New York and ascertain whether or not there would be any more Soviet vessels calling at this port.

LEBEDEFF had shown MAXWELL a letter from AMTORG designating him their agent to handle the servicing of their vessels, work which he had performed in the past but while he was in the employ of MORRIS BACH. LEBEDEFF told MAXWELL that he did not know whether there would be additional ships calling at this port.

MAXWELL stated that on one occasion he attempted to draw LEBEDEFF out on his nationalistic sympathies by discussing the international situation with him. LEBEDEFF expressed the opinion during the conversation that the United States's attitude toward Russia stems from politics on the domestic scene and that the disputes between the two countries should be and could be settled by negotiation.

In answer to MAXWELL's question as to whether he ever heard from GRACHEV, ZEBELLO and some of the other Russians with whom he was formerly associated, LEBEDEFF replied that he did not and added that he didn't care to hear from them as letters from Russia might reflect on him.

From these conversations, MAXWELL explained that he got the impression that LEBEDEFF was not too friendly with the Russians now and was more interested in trying to establish himself in independent work here in the harbor area rather than depending on them for odd jobs for which he has never received a substantial remuneration.

Recently MAXWELL stated, he suggested to LEBEDEFF, why he didn't go to the FBI, explain his situation to them on the possibility that the FBI might be able to use his services. LEBEDEFF replied that the reason he has not, was because he "didn't want to get mixed up in it." MAXWELL expressed the opinion that LEBEDEFF would probably be willing to talk if he thought he might get anything out of it. It was MAXWELL's opinion that LEBEDEFF is an "opportunist", that this swing over to the pro-Soviet sympathies was a direct result of the fact that he saw an opportunity to obtain employment from them and as a matter of fact, he did obtain employment from them, one of the few real jobs he has ever had and it was to his advantage to make the most of it at the time.

In connection with LEBEDEFF's present arrangement with AMTORG, the following information was obtained during surveillances conducted in connection with the investigation of EUGENIA ~~AFANASIEV~~ AFINOGENOVA and her contacts with VICTOR ~~AFANASIEV~~, Soviet Vice-Consul from San Francisco.

AT LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA:

On May 19, 1948 MORRIS BACH, operator of the San Francisco Ship Supply Company, PAUL ~~SAZANOV~~ SAZANOV, AMTORG Representative from New York, and LEBEDEFF had a conversation in SAZANOV's room in the Wiltern Hotel, Long Beach.

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LEBEDEFF told BACH that he presently had a job as a salesman for a local concern; that he worked strictly on a commission basis and that this work did not tie him down. LEBEDEFF also attempted to convince BACH that he was in a position to handle the servicing of Soviet vessels at this port. SAZANOV then asked BACH to continue LEBEDEFF in his employ but BACH expressed objections to this. SAZANOV offered the suggestion that LEBEDEFF act as sole agent in this port and this completely upset BACH who explained that he had handled this section for the past five years and he did not want to lose it now. He explained, however, that he was willing to leave the matter up to AMTORG to decide but he did not desire to keep LEBEDEFF on his payroll.

On May 25, 1948 SAZANOV telephonically contacted V. N. KUDRIASHOV at New York and asked him to personally look into the LEBEDEFF case on the coast. He explained that LEBEDEFF was in the middle; that BACH did not want to pay him and that he, SAZANOV, did not have authority to reach a decision. He told KUDRIASHOV that LEBEDEFF was an able and willing supply man.

It is to be noted, however, that no additional Soviet vessels had called at this port since these conversations took place and according to EARL SAULTER, Long Beach Representative of Moore-McCormack Steam Ship Co., agents for the Soviet vessels, no additional vessels are expected to call here in the foreseeable future. A group of four sailing vessels, accompanied by a mother ship were expected to be enroute scheduled to arrive at Los Angeles August, 1948. These vessels never arrived and it is believed by SAULTER that Russia rerouted the vessels cutting out the West Coast entirely. In the past these vessels have traveled from England through the Panama Canal, to Long Beach for repairs and supplies and then proceeded to Vladivostok on a fishing trip. SAULTER expressed the belief that the vessels are now going through the Indian Ocean and avoiding the coast.

SAULTER has been associated with LEBEDEFF since the subject went to work for SGPC at Long Beach and he shares MAXWELL's opinion that the subject is an opportunist and joined up with the Soviet as he saw in it an opportunity for employment. He explained that LEBEDEFF was a very diligent and hard worker and through his efforts was able to save the Soviet Government considerable money and efforts. He stated that he has never observed any activities on the part of LEBEDEFF that would indicate that he was engaged in anything other than routine duties in connection with the Soviet.

[ ] furnished information that LEBEDEFF was devoting his entire time in attempting to sell Marine supplies to vessels in the harbor area; that he was in desperate financial condition and in poor health and that he was not regularly in touch with any Soviet Government representatives.

July 12, 1948 he received a letter from PAUL SAZANOV in New York congratulating him on making a good deal in Long Beach. This pertained to his official appointment as AMTORG representative to handle servicing of the vessels.

November 23, 1948 the informant advised that LEBEDEFER visited a Doctor who told him he was in very poor health and suggested that he take a rest. LEBEDEFER told his wife that he would try to borrow some money from MORRIS BACH. November 24, 1948 LEBEDEFER attempted to sell a Royal Typewriter with the Russian keyboard. December 2, 1948 LEBEDEFER attempted to telephonically contact MORRIS BACH in San Francisco in an attempt to borrow some money and was advised that BACH was presently in New York City. Subject left word for BACH to call him. According to the informant subject was successful in borrowing some money from ~~A. LEBEDEFER~~, a friend in Oceanside, California.

Informant advised that on December 16 LEBEDEFER borrowed two dollars from his daughter for lunch.

By reference letter of November 29, 1948 the Bureau authorized that LEBEDEFER be interviewed. On December 9, 1948 LEBEDEFER voluntarily came to the Long Beach Resident Agency for an interview with Special Agent FRANCIS D. COOLEY and the writer.

During this interview LEBEDEFER stated that as a worker in the Russian War Relief in Los Angeles in 1943 he frequently visited the Soviet vessels in the Los Angeles harbor delivering packages of food, clothing and other items. During the course of these visits, he met A. P. GRACHEV and became friendly with him. (At the time GRACHEV was a SGPC Representative at Long Beach, California.) Subsequently GRACHEV offered him employment as a translator and purchasing agent in his office. He accepted this offer and started work for AMTORG in March, 1944, SGPC.

During the period of his employment, his routine duties consisted of purchasing supplies for the vessels and tending to the details of the deliveries, taking care of the needs of the crew and handling other of the small details that accompanied the visit of the vessels in this port.

Frequently, AMTORG, SGPC and other Soviet agency representatives would come to the Long Beach Office and he was introduced to them by GRACHEV. He was also on occasions invited to attend official receptions and functions at the Vice Consulate in Los Angeles and was known to various members of the official family there. He stated, however, that he was never actually taken into the confidence of GRACHEV or these other official personages, and for this reason he was not thoroughly acquainted with the complete scope of these activities. GRACHEV and the other Soviet personages frequently asked him if



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he had ever been approached by the FBI and they indicated they did not believe him when he denied that he had.

GRACHEV was apparently well acquainted with LEBEDEF's past anti-Soviet sympathies and on one occasion confronted him with some of his cartoons which appeared in "The Whip" and asked him if he had drawn them. LEBEDEF admitted that he had and pointed out to GRACHEV that that was in the past, the same as his past service with the Imperial Army and Navy. He said GRACHEV made no further issue of the matter but LEBEDEF felt that this probably contributed to the fact that he was never taken into the "inner circles" and was always excluded when anything of confidential nature was discussed.

LEBEDEF explained that the Consulate people appeared to hold themselves apart from representatives of the other official agencies. Receptions and parties at the consulate were "stiff" and very formal affairs. "They were like people from another country" LEBEDEF stated. "Whenever you tried to talk to any of the officials they would listen to you and pass it off with a grin". Of all the consulate people with whom he was acquainted he was probably closer to Victor AFANASIEV, Vice Consulate at San Francisco. He became acquainted with AFANASIEV during the course of this individual's visits to Long Beach in connection with the Soviet vessels. LEBEDEF stated that AFANASIEV actually ran the consulate in San Francisco and that EFRENOV held the appointment as consular, but actually he was a figurehead.

It is noted that in conversations with [redacted] on October 19, 1948, this informant stated that he was told by [redacted] that LEBEDEF was recruited by one of two Soviet Espionage Agents - SEMEN MARKOVICH SEMENOV or PETER PANKRATEVICH GAVRILOV.

During the interview, a photograph of SEMENOV was exhibited to LEBEDEF but he was unable to make any identification. The name SEMENOV was then mentioned to him and he still was unable to place this individual as any person whom he had ever met or who was ever connected with the operations of AMTORG in the Los Angeles area. He explained that he met numerous individuals who came to the Long Beach Office in connection with SGPC business but, either the name or the photograph meant anything to him. He was positive that he was never interviewed by SEMENOV or had any special dealings with him. GRACHEV was the one who employed him and as far as he knew no other person was consulted on his employment.

A photograph of GAVRILOV was then exhibited to him and he immediately recognized him as one of the Soviet port engineers who had occasionally visited the AMTORG office at Long Beach during the period of LEBEDEF's employment. As he recalled GAVRILOV was stationed at either Portland, Oregon or Seattle

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Washington, and that he came to Long Beach in connection with the servicing of the Soviet vessels in this port. GAVRILOV was introduced to LEBEDEFK by GRACHEV. One incident that he recalled in connection with GAVRILOV was that he GAVRILOV gave ZEBELLO, who was also connected with the AMTORG office at Long Beach, a severe reprimand for some mistake he had made in connection with one of the vessels. LEBEDEFK explained that GAVRILOV was not too well liked by other AMTORG representatives and he had the reputation of being "very dumb" and not qualified for the job which he had.

In reply to inquiries, LEBEDEFK stated that he was never closely acquainted with GAVRILOV, that his association with him was limited to contacts in the AMTORG office. GAVRILOV never made any requests to him to perform any duties outside the scope of his routine activities. Whenever GAVRILOV came to Long Beach, he carried on business with GRACHEV or ZEBELLO directly, the detailed nature of which LEBEDEFK was not aware. As a general rule, when any individuals called at the office and had any thing that appeared to be of confidential business to transact, GRACHEV and the visitor would generally leave the office and carry on their conversations on the street or at least outside the scope of LEBEDEFK's hearing.

In connection with GAVRILOV, LEBEDEFK explained that while in conversation with one of the officers attached to the Soviet vessels that visited Long Beach in June, 1948, he was told that GAVRILOV is presently in Japan on the staff of the Russian General who heads the Soviet Commission there. The individual who told him this was amused by this fact because he could not understand such an inefficient man as GAVRILOV was able to advance himself to such a responsible position.

It is noted that [ ] reported that OLGA ARTEMOFF was allegedly the go-between during the period that LEBEDEFK was allegedly working for GAVRILOV as an Espionage Agent. LEBEDEFK was questioned in detail concerning the identity of any woman associated with GAVRILOV. He stated that he was unable to recall any woman in this capacity. Photographs of the following three individuals who have been identified by [ ] as to resemble OLGA were exhibited to LEBEDEFK but he gave no indication of recognizing them as persons whom he had ever seen or worked with. The photographs exhibited were those of FRANCES ~~X~~ORMOND, who was said by the informant to have looked like OLGA, RAISA DMITRIEVA ~~X~~SHUMKINA and ZINAIDA IVANOVA ~~X~~GRACHEVA, of whom there were indications that she might have been OLGA.

As for female employees of the SGPC and AMTORG at Long Beach, LEBEDEFK said there were only three to his knowledge. These were a GINA ~~X~~MEDEM, a woman of about 60 years of age, Mrs. LEBEDEFK, the subject's wife, and a NINA ~~X~~MASLOVSKY, whose husband was head of the office there for a brief time.

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The description of NINA MASLOVKY as furnished by LEBEDEF is as follows:

Age, 27-30, Blonde hair, well dressed, wore hair on top of head, had slightly crooked nose, was native of Russia, spoke with a marked accent. Returned to Russia with her husband. During the period they were at Long Beach they resided at the Bayshore Apartments. LEBEDEF was unable to place the exact date they were at Long Beach, but stated that it was during the period that ZEBELLO was in the office.

During the conversation OLGA's name was never mentioned to LEBEDEF, however, every opportunity was given him to name or identify a person who might have been in the capacity of this alleged OLGA.

It is also to be noted that [ ] name was not mentioned to him nor any indication given him of the existence of such a source. In view of [ ] latest statements, that he was personally acquainted with LEBEDEF and had met him [ ] the possibility exists that LEBEDEF might recall him and be in a position to throw some light on [ ] status and background.

LEBEDEF was asked directly if he had ever been approached by any individuals at any time to obtain any type of confidential information that would be of assistance to the Soviet or perform any duty outside the scope of his regular work. He stated emphatically that he had not been approached. As to his present status with the Russians, he explained that he had received a letter from AMTORG at New York City designating him as their representative to handle the supplying of all Soviet vessels calling at this port in the future. He pointed out that he had done a good job for the Russians in this capacity in the past. He said he saved them considerable money and should have had this assignment long before now but that MORRIS BACH had been successful in holding the commission and preventing LEBEDEF from getting it for himself.

Before GRACHEV left the United States to return to Russia, he had promised LEBEDEF he would help him in this regard, but GRACHEV, it turned out, did nothing to assist him. During the visit of the last group of vessels, LEBEDEF became acquainted with SAZANOV, who came out from New York to represent AMTORG, and became very friendly with him. He feels that it was through SAZANOV's influence that he was able to get the commission.

LEBEDEF stated he made several trips to San Francisco to plead his case with AFANASIEV and that this probably also helped.

During the course of the interview, LEBEDEF admitted that at one time he was considering returning to Russia. He was being prompted in this idea by GRACHEV who encouraged him to believe that he would be given a good job

there and that he would have an excellent future. In LEBEDEFF's own words, "I almost made a fatal mistake." He gradually changed his mind and dismissed any idea of returning. His wife was also opposed to returning to Russia all the time and her efforts to discourage him probably helped to influence his decision.

In this connection he stated that during a conversation with an officer on one of the Soviet Vessels, he mentioned the fact that he was planning to return to Russia. The officer, who was a woman doctor, replied in amazement "Are you crazy?" Such incidents as this and other conditions he noted from time to time in connection with his work made him decide to stay in the United States.

Many of the Soviet representatives in the United States with whom he came in contact did not desire to return to Russia and would have preferred to remain in the United States if they had dared. Included among these was ZEBELLO who fought his return but was forced to go back through the efforts of GRACHEV who never liked ZEBELLO. GRACHEV himself was not too keen about going but he always made it a practice to put up a false front that he and his wife did desire to go and were not satisfied with his assignment in the United States. LEBEDEFF explained that they would both have preferred to remain in the United States.

LEBEDEFF stated that during the time he was in the employ of the Russians he did the very best job that he could for them. During the war, he was complimented by the U. S. War Shipping Administration for his efforts and he considered it a patriotic duty to get the ships carrying supplies to Russia out as fast as possible. He realizes now, he explained, that the Russians found he was a hard worker and could get results and used him to their full advantage but that they were always ready to throw him over when his services were no longer useful. He feels that he got a raw deal from BACH who let him do all of the work and while he sat in his office in San Francisco and made the money.

ALEXANDRA During the course of the interview LEBEDEFF was questioned and verified information regarding his arrival in the United States, his naturalization and his activities in the Los Angeles area. He was questioned for some length of time relative to his wife. He stated that she was born in Habarovka, Siberia and that she was married in Siberia and that her first husband's name was ALEXEEVA. She came to the United States about 1927 and entered either at San Francisco or Seattle, Washington. He was not certain of the details. She was a member of a dance troop that came to this country on a tour. After arriving in the United States the troop broke up and she did not return to Russia. He stated that it is his impression that she re-entered the United States from Canada and some time later married again. The second husband's name was KILESEIKOSS. They lived in San Francisco. She later divorced this man in Los Angeles, about fifteen years ago. He has sub-

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sequently returned to China and is believed to be operating a photography business in Shanghai in the White-Russian Colony there. The daughter, TAMRA, is a product of the first marriage. TAMRA is a naturalized citizen of the United States. She has been married twice, first to PAUL CAMPBELL; she divorced CAMPBELL about two years ago. She has one daughter by this marriage, DONNA, who presently resides with subject and his wife. About one year ago TAMRA remarried FRED ~~DE~~ BLANK who was a flier in the United States Army Air Corps and now employed at North American Aircraft, Long Beach, California. LEBEDEFF stated that his wife, Mrs. LEBEDEFF, has never become a naturalized citizen. He stated that some years ago she was interviewed by the INS at Terminal Island and was apparently cleared for permanent residence in the United States. Mrs. LEBEDEFF has not been employed for several years since her work with SGPC; however, she does, on occasion, give private Russian language lessons. She was, at one time, an instructress at a dancing school in Pasadena, California in about 1937 and 1938.

TAMRA ~~DE~~ BLANKMrs. Fred ~~DE~~ BLANK

In regard to his own background, LEBEDEFF stated that he had served in both the Imperial Army and Navy and that he came to the United States with his family as refugees from the Reds. He obtained naturalization and subsequently moved to Los Angeles where he has had various jobs in the Los Angeles area. About fifteen years ago he attended art classes at the Los Angeles City College night school and subsequently obtained work with various motion picture studios in Hollywood. He has also worked as a house painter for various individuals. He was inducted into the United States Army September, 1942, Los Angeles, California, and assigned to a Camouflage Unit at Fresno and Culver City, California. Prior to his induction he was working in a Civilian Camouflage Unit being operated under military authorities. He stated he was actively associated with the Russian Relief Association in 1943. At the present time he is devoting his entire time and effort to attempting to sell Marine supplies in the harbor area. He stated that he has had no contact with his former Russian associates since their departure from the United States and he does not expect to hear from them. He stated, however, that if additional Soviet vessels call at this port he will undoubtedly act as Supply Agent and will be in touch with AMTORG Representatives in this connection.

One copy of this report is being designated to the San Francisco Office for information purposes.

- C L O S E D -

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

DATE: February 21, 1949

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF, was;  
 Costia Valdemar Lebedeff, Richard Constant  
 Lebedeff; Mrs. CONSTANTINE V. LEBEDEF, nee Alexandra Shernett  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
 Bureau file 100-348479

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*7-1*

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*Lead*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 27, 1949

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, was.  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
 Bufile ~~100-348479~~

*Cancel (Caden)*  
 CANCELLED

JJH:JLD  
 100-23834

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

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Los Angeles, California  
May 2, 1949

Director, FBI

42869

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re:

Dear Sir:

Complete background concerning LEBEDEFF is contained in the case file entitled "CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF, Internal Security - R", Bureau File No. 100-348479 (LA File No. 100-23834).

At the present time, LEBEDEFF resides at 220-A Ximene, Long Beach, California. He is not regularly employed but holds a letter from AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION, New York City, authorizing him as their agent to handle the supplying of all Soviet vessels calling at the Los Angeles Port.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD, SAC

GJN:dbt

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

100-348479  
NOT RECD  
149 MAY 25



SAC, SAC, Los Angeles

October 26, 1949

Director, FBI

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEV, was.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
Your file 100-23834

In accordance with your recommendation, the Security Index Card relative to the captioned individual has been cancelled and you are authorized to place your copy thereof in the investigative case file.

RECORDED - 33  
100-348497 - 42

RAC:jmc

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED -

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 28 3 01 PM '49

MAILED 6  
OCT 26 1949 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

56 OCT 31 1949

*Handwritten:*  
P. L. H.  
H. B. F.  
J. M.  
J. C.

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT

Reference is made to my letter dated November 10, 1949, wherein you were instructed to furnish a summary report concerning the subject.

You are also requested to advise the Bureau as to the availability of the informants set forth in this summary report. The availability of the informants is essential, inasmuch as the Department will consider prosecuting the subject for failure to register under the terms of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

JAS:EAS  
100-348497

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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SAC, San Francisco

November 10, 1949

Director, FBI

MORRIS BACH, wa.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
Bureau file #100-356760

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
Bureau file #100-348497

Burelet dated September 27, 1949, entitled "Morris Bach, wa., Internal Security - R, Foreign Agents Registration Act." In connection with instant investigation you will recall that on November 24, 1947, the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice was requested to advise whether Constantine Vladimirovich Lebedeff or Morris Bach have committed violations of the Registration Act. On December 24, 1947, a memorandum was received from the Department reflecting that the cases on Lebedeff and Bach were very similar and to a certain extent connected with the case of the Amtorg Trading Corporation. It was stated that a decision would not be made concerning Lebedeff and Bach until disposition was made of the Amtorg matter.

You are requested to advise if you have any objection to the presentation of the facts to the Department concerning Lebedeff and Bach. If you are of the opinion that the facts concerning Lebedeff should be presented, you should then submit a summary report which could be furnished to the Department. The reports previously furnished concerning Lebedeff contained information concerning Olga Artemoff and copies of these reports have not been furnished to the Department. The facts will be presented to the Department upon receipt of the summary report concerning Lebedeff.

In connection with your request to interview Lydia Arnautoff, the former secretary of the Amtorg Office in San Francisco, you will recall that on September 13, 1949, you requested permission to interview this individual regarding her knowledge of Amtorg. You were advised on September 19, 1949, that Lydia Arnautoff should not be interviewed in view of the close affiliation of Lydia and her husband with the Communist Party. Accordingly, authority is not being granted to interview Mrs. Arnautoff at this time for the same reason.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

JAS:omr;se

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Consideration will be given to interviewing Morris Bach after an opinion is given by the Department as to a possible violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act on the part of the subject. When you resubmit your request for an interview with the subject, you should set forth the reasons you believe that the interview would be of considerable value.

- 2 -

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

DATE: December 6, 1949

SUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEF, was  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
Bureau File 100-348397

Rebulet dated November 10, 1949 to the San Francisco Office in the above captioned case, in which the Bureau requested to be advised the opinion of the San Francisco Office whether the facts concerning LEBEDEF should be presented to the Department for consideration under the Registration Act. As the Los Angeles Office was office of origin in this investigation, the matter was referred to this office for action.

A review of the file in this case reflects that LEBEDEF was employed by the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission in January, 1944 and this employment terminated in October, 1945. In March, 1946 he was employed by Morris Bach as Long Beach agent of the San Francisco Ship Supply Co. He had a desk in the office of the Amtorg Trading Corp., at Long Beach, until about February 1, 1947, when Amtorg offices were closed there. From that time until March 30, 1948, he occupied his own office under the head of the San Francisco Ship Supply.

While LEBEDEF was on the payrolls of the SGPC, he received \$250 a month and was employed in a minor clerical capacity. While an employee of the San Francisco Ship Supply, he was in a similar minor capacity receiving a salary of \$250 a month which was increased to \$300. According to his own statements, the San Francisco Ship Supply Co. was operated purely as a brokerage firm receiving its income in the form of commissions from various American business houses which sold supplies to the Soviet vessels.

In the Spring of 1948, LEBEDEF claims that he received a letter from the Amtorg Trading Corp., authorizing captains of Soviet vessels calling at Long Beach to make purchases of supplies through him. This authorization, however, was not honored, and Bach acted as supply broker when the next Soviet vessels called at the port. LEBEDEF in the meantime has returned the letter to Amtorg and has had no further correspondence or contact with that agency.

In view of LEBEDEF'S minor capacity with both the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, Amtorg and the San Francisco Ship Supply, it is not being recommended that his case be referred to the Department for consideration under the Registration Act.

GJN:IGL  
100-23834  
CC: San Francisco

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 12-12-49

FROM : SAC, San Francisco

AIR MAILSUBJECT: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
Bufile 100-348497

Remylet 11-16-49 suggesting that Los Angeles write the summary report in the LEBEDEFF case since LEBEDEFF's activities have been centered in Los Angeles.

The Bureau is requested to advise San Francisco and Los Angeles by air mail if it agrees with the suggestion by San Francisco.

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~HFC:mah  
100-26961

cc: Los Angeles

(Encl.)

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SAC, Los Angeles

VIA AIR MAIL

December 15, 1949

Director, FBI

MORRIS BACH, wa  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
Bufile 100-356760

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
Bufile 100-348497 ✓

Reference is made to my letter to San Francisco dated November 10, 1949, a copy of which San Francisco has made available to your office.

Los Angeles, as origin, is requested to submit a summary report on Lebedeff, which can be furnished to the Department for its opinion as to prosecution under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

You are also requested to advise the Bureau as to the availability of the informants set forth in this summary report.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

cc: San Francisco

LCN/de

100-356760  
cc 100-348497

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Director, FBI

11-16-49

SAC, San Francisco

AIR MAIL

MORRIS BACH, wa  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
(Bufile 100-356760)

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
(Bufile 100-348497)

ReBulet 11-10-49 captioned as above, a copy of which is enclosed for Los Angeles.

The San Francisco Office has no objection to the presentation of the facts concerning LEBEDEFF and BACH to the Department.

It is noted that the Bureau requested the San Francisco Office to submit a summary report concerning LEBEDEFF. It is point out that the Los Angeles Office is the office of origin in the case concerning LEBEDEFF whose time has been spent practically solely in the Los Angeles Division. As a consequence full information concerning him is not available in San Francisco, and especially a review of logs and other sources which probably exist in Los Angeles would not be possible in San Francisco.

It is suggested, therefore, that the Bureau by return air mail letter advise the Los Angeles Office if it desires that office to prepare a summary report concerning LEBEDEFF. In the meantime no action concerning LEBEDEFF is being taken in the San Francisco Office.

HFC:mah  
100-26961

cc: Los Angeles (Encl.)  
SF #100-27941

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ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-356760-17



*OK*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Los Angeles 13, California  
January 10, 1950

7937

Director, FBI

RE: CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEFF  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
(Bureau file 100-348497)

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Dear Sir:

Re Bureau letter dated December 15, 1949.

By letter dated December 6, 1949, the Bureau was advised of the recommendations of this office concerning the presentation of this case to the Department as a possible violation under the Registration Act, as had been requested in Bureau letter to San Francisco dated November 10, 1949.

In view of the fact that my letter of December 6, 1949 and Bureau letter dated December 15, 1949 apparently crossed in the mail, no summary report will be submitted at this time unless the Bureau advises to the contrary. *ad*

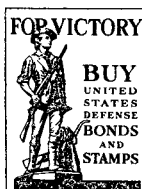
Very truly yours,

*R. B. Hood*

R. B. HOOD, SAC

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GJN:bjd  
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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, San Francisco

SUBJECT: MORRIS BACH, wa.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
REGISTRATION ACT  
Bureau File 100-356760

DATE: October 19, 1950

ReBulet 8/16/50 requesting San Francisco to submit recommendations regarding the interview of subject BACH following completion of an inquiry by the Washington Field Office. The Bureau indicated the re-presentation of this case to the Department would be withheld until such recommendations relative to the interview were received. A summarization of the facts pertinent to the presentation of this case for prosecutive purposes and relative to an interview with BACH follows:

The Bureau, by memorandum dated November 24, 1947, requested the Department of Justice to advise if MORRIS BACH and CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEV (Bufile 100-348497; Lafile 100-23834) violated the Foreign Agents Registration Act through their failure to register. The Department replied by memorandum dated December 24, 1947, pointing to the similarity of the BACH and LEBEDEV cases and to their connection with the Amtorg Trading Corporation case (Bufile 61-5381). The latter case (AMTORG) was said to then present the question as to whether prosecution was warranted on the basis of "representation of a foreign government in commercial matters alone, which is all that up to now is provable." The Department indicated that no determination should be made in the BACH and LEBEDEV cases until the AMTORG case had been determined. It is to be noted that Los Angeles letter to the Bureau of November 7, 1947, in the CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEV case summarized activities possibly bringing him within the purview of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

The report of Special Agent JOHN J. WACHTER dated September 27, 1949, at San Francisco, California, summarized the activities of BACH for submission to the Department. BACH was characterized therein as an opportunist and one who formed friendships with USSR representatives in order that he might make use of the relationships to further BACH'S business. In connection with the preparation of Agent WACHTER'S report, a request was made to the Bureau by letter of September 27, 1949, asking permission to interview BACH. This request was renewed in San Francisco letter of October 28, 1949, which called attention to the institution of prosecutive

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100-27941

CC: Los Angeles (100-31499)

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Letter to Bureau  
RE: MORRIS BACH, wa.  
IS - R; REGISTRATION ACT

10/19/50

action against the Amtorg Trading Corporation at Washington, D. C., by an indictment returned October 21, 1949. The desirability of referring the BACH case to the Department again was called to the Bureau's attention at this time and it was indicated that such a determination was deemed advisable prior to interviewing BACH. It was stated that if the Department held BACH'S past activities with relation to the Amtorg Trading Corporation were those of an independent broker rather than those of an agent or employee, there was no indication that an interview with BACH could be expected to alter such a viewpoint.

In requesting permission to interview BACH after receipt of the Departmental opinion regarding prosecutive action, it was contemplated he would be specifically questioned regarding particular transactions and events of interest to the Department if prosecution was decided upon.

In regard to this latter situation, the Amtorg Trading Corporation closed its San Francisco Office in March 1948. The Consulate General of the USSR at San Francisco terminated its operations on September 30, 1948, and no Soviet vessels have entered the Port of San Francisco since early 1948. You will recall that twenty vessels of the USSR cleared San Francisco in 1946; seventeen in 1947; and only two in 1948. These were the SS DNESTER, leaving January 10, 1948, and the SS KOLHOZNIK, departing January 17, 1948, both destined for Vladivostok, Siberia, via Los Angeles, California. Soviet activities in San Francisco, California, began to decline following the termination of lend-lease on October 2, 1945, and practically all activities had ceased by mid-1948.

To the San Francisco requests of September 27, 1949, and October 28, 1949, the Bureau replied by letter of November 10, 1949, referring to both the BACH and LEBEDEF cases, and requested advice as to whether there was any objection to the re-presentation of the facts of these cases to the Department. This communication stated that the Bureau would give consideration to interviewing BACH after an opinion regarding prosecution was received from the Department. To the Bureau's inquiry San Francisco replied on November 16, 1949, saying there was no objection to the re-presentation of these cases.

Letter to Bureau  
RE: MORRIS BACH, wa.  
IS - R; REGISTRATION ACT

10/19/50

On December 15, 1949, the Bureau requested the Los Angeles Office to submit a summary report regarding LEBEDEFF in order that it might be submitted to the Department. San Francisco completed the submission of full identification regarding informants mentioned in Special Agent WACHTER'S summary report on February 16, 1950, and also furnished data regarding their availability as witnesses.

With regard to the Bureau's letter of August 16, 1950, please note that the leads furnished the Washington Field Office on August 3, 1950, were referred back to the Bureau on August 30, 1950, with a request that the inquiry at ONI, G-2, and CIA be handled by the Bureau's Liaison Section.

It is believed that the Bureau may desire to consider the following facts in connection with further activities in this case.

The original Department viewpoint regarding prosecution associated the BACH and LEBEDEFF cases with the Amtorg Trading Corporation case, and the question of prosecution for representing a foreign government in commercial matters alone. Just prior to the indictment of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, extensive investigation was conducted by the San Francisco and other offices at the request of the office of origin (New York) to develop indications that AMTORG acted in other than purely commercial capacities and, in fact, acted as an Agent of the USSR in political, espionage, and governmental matters. It is believed that the presentation of the Amtorg Trading Corporation case to a Federal Grand Jury showed a much stronger case than the mere acting in commercial matters alone. Also, the action against Amtorg was described in the press as directed primarily towards securing the registration of the Amtorg Trading Corporation with the Attorney General as an agent of a foreign principal. It was noted that punitive action following the nolo contendere pleas resulted in a fine which was suspended and in the dismissal of the prosecution against the officers of the Amtorg Trading Corporation.

Letter to Bureau  
RE: MORRIS BACH, wa.  
IS - R; REGISTRATION ACT

10/19/50

In BACH'S case rather full and complete information is available regarding the exact nature and extent of his dealings with the Amtorg Trading Corporation and with USSR representative. All of this information is now quite old, and recent activities on BACH'S part have been nominal.


This case is essentially one in the character "REGISTRATION ACT" and merely offered possibilities in the "INTERNAL SECURITY - R" field which this office is still exploring.

CONSTANTINE VLADIMIROVICH LEBEDEV was interviewed by the Los Angeles Office on October 26, 1949, concerning BACH, and he expressed the opinion that BACH was acting as an independent broker in his transactions with the Soviets. You will recall BACH has long made it a practice of referring many business matters to Mr. HARVEY B. RILEY, who is in charge of the Marine Division, United States Customs, San Francisco, California. Mr. RILEY has commented that BACH appeared to be operating as an independent broker insofar as transactions coming to RILEY'S attention were concerned. Both LEBEDEV and RILEY apparently feel that BACH was primarily motivated by monetary considerations in all his dealings with USSR representatives.

The San Francisco Office desires to make the following recommendations to the Bureau at this time:

1. Secure an early re-presentation of the facts concerning BACH to the Department for possible prosecution under the Foreign Agents Registration Act.
2. Withhold consideration of the interviewing of subject BACH until after the Department's opinion has been received.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)



Letter to Bureau  
RE: MORRIS BACH, wa.  
IS - R; REGISTRATION ACT

10/19/50

4. If prosecution of BACH is authorized, it is anticipated the Department will specifically outline the transactions deemed of probative value, and the interview with BACH can be restricted to facts and occurrences of interest to the prosecuting attorneys.

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This case is being continued in a pending inactive status at San Francisco until advice is received from the Bureau relative to the above recommendations.